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Faculty Debate Free Speech Handbook Policy

By Will DiGravio & Elaine Velie
News Editors

A group of faculty members presented a motion to add a "Freedom of Expression Policy" to the "General Information" section of the College handbook at the April 9 Faculty Plenary meeting.

The following professors submitted the motion: Assistant Professor of Religion Ata Anzali, Assistant Professor of Political Science Keegan Callanan, Fulton Professor of Humanities Stephen Donadio, Frederick C. Dirks Professor of Political Science Michael Kraus, Associate Professor of Economics Caitlin Myers, D. E. Axinn Professor of English and Creative Writing Jay Parini, Curt C. and Else Silberman Professor of Jewish Studies Robert Schine, Associate Professor of Mathematics John Schmitt, Russell J. Leng '60 Professor of International Politics and Economics Allison Stanger and John M. McCardell Jr. Distinguished Professor Don Wyatt.

Their motion comes in the midst of on-campus debates over free speech and inclusivity in the wake of student-led protests that prevented Dr. Charles Murray from delivering a scheduled lecture on March 2. The faculty group emerged out of an informal conversation about the future of free expression at Middlebury.

"There are several places in the handbook that address academic freedom in one way or another," Meyers said. "But they all have local purposes and don't provide a complete, coherent, clear statement of policy that protects the whole community — faculty, staff, and students as well as any guest they invite."

"Because the College is committed to free and open inquiry in all matters, it guarantees all members of the College community the broadest possible latitude to speak, write, listen, challenge and learn," reads their motion. "It is not the proper role of the College to attempt to shield individuals from ideas and opinions they find unwelcome, disagreeable, or even deeply offensive."

The motion emphasised that one of the purposes of higher education is to serve as a place where contrasting ideas can be presented and discussed.

"In a community striving toward this end, free speech protects the right of all individuals and groups to be heard. We recognize the uneven burden that freedom of speech can impose on under-represented minorities. By the same token, minorities often stand to lose the most under regimes of restricted speech," the motion reads.

It also acknowledges that freedom of speech does not protect all kinds of speech.

"The freedom to debate and discuss the merits of competing ideas does not, of course, mean that individuals may say whatever they wish, wherever they wish," said the motion. "The College may restrict expression that violates the law, that falsely defames a specific individual, that constitutes a genuine threat or harassment, that unjustifiably invades substantial privacy or confidentiality interests, or that is otherwise directly incompatible with the functioning of the College."

Although part of the motion was drafted by Middlebury faculty, it also proposes the adoption of the University of Chicago's "Freedom of Inquiry and Expression" policy and the AAUP's statement, "On Freedom of Expression and Campus Speech Codes."

After Myers, Anzali, Callanan and Donadio presented the motion to the faculty, Professor of Film & Media Studies and American Studies Jason Mittell, speaking on behalf of more than 30 faculty members, introduced a substitution motion to delay voting on the proposal. Faculty spoke against the proposal not necessarily due to the content of the

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MCAB SPRING 2017 CONCERT: LIL UZI VERT

MICHAEL O'HARA

Lil Uzi Vert performs in Chip Kenyon Arena on Saturday, April 8 for MCAB's Spring Concert.

SGA Candidates Talk Platforms

By Kyle Naughton
Senior Writer

Two students are running to serve as President of the Student Government Association for the 2017-18 academic year. The Middlebury Campus *met with the candidates to discuss their platforms and goals for the coming year. The candidates will participate in a debate on Thursday, April 13 at 8 pm at Crossroads Café. Students can vote online from noon on April 17 to noon on April 18.*

Elizabeth Dunn '18

Dunn has remained an active member of the Middlebury community since her freshman year; she has served on the SGA Institutional Diversity Committee since her first year, served on Women of Color's board for three years and is currently serving as the organization's co-president. She has written for campus publications such as Middbeat and Beyond the Green, and has also volunteered for the local teen center in town, as well as other volunteer organizations.

Dunn believes that her experiences both within campus and throughout neighboring communities have provided her with a sense of people's needs that are not currently being addressed by the administration or student government. Consequently, she has centered her platform around addressing the underlying needs of the Middlebury community, particularly the voices of marginalized groups on campus "whose voices are historically silenced at [educational] institutions."

As president, Dunn does not expect to radically reform the foundations of student government, but she still intends to incorporate efforts against oppression, racism and sexism within SGA policies. Regarding recent campus controversies, Dunn believes that one of the most effective resolutions would be to expand SGA forums to start conversations between different groups on campus. Expanding the JusTalks program beyond just first-year students, for example, could spark dialogues between students that usually do not interact with one another and thus work to ease the sense of division on campus. Dunn would also like to establish a program similar to Envisioning Middlebury that could gather students and administrators together to discuss relevant issues facing the campus.

Dunn also intends to further build a sense of community by providing more opportunities for various cultural organizations, student groups and sports clubs to interact with one another. Dunn has proposed the addition of an online campus platform where a given student group might interact and collaborate with another group to pursue certain ideas or goals on campus. An online forum would more effectively integrate different student groups while also facilitating discussions about important issues between various viewpoints.

Dunn perceives the SGA as a facilitator that should streamline the possibilities for student discussion and collaboration while also effectively transmitting student concerns to the administration. She hopes to incorporate this goal of heightened inclusivity and student participation within each piece of legislation discussed within the SGA to ensure that these issues are

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2017 COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER: JON MEACHAM

ST. LOUIS PUBLIC RADIO

Pulitzer-Prize winning historian and journalist Jon Meacham will be this year's commencement speaker. He, along with Alison Bechdel, Kate Darling, Grace Potter and Fred Swaniker will receive honorary degrees.

FOUR STUDENTS VIE FOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL CO-CHAIR

By John Gosselin
Senior Writer

Four students are running to serve as Student Co-Chair of Community Council during the 2017-18 academic year. For the first time, this year's candidates are allowed to run for either a full-year term or a one-semester term in the fall of 2017 or the spring of 2018, thanks to a bill passed this week by the Student Government Association (SGA). The Middlebury Campus *met with the candidates to discuss their platforms and goals for the coming year. The candidates will participate in a debate on Thursday, April 13 at 7:30pm at Crossroads Café. Students can vote online from noon on April 17 to noon on April 18.*

Tina Brook '18.5

Brook, who is running for the spring semester, said she wants to be Co-Chair for the spring because "my time at Middlebury has been very segregated, because I feel like I identify with many groups on campus, and I feel like a lot of them have different concerns, and that no one ever gets together to discuss them. Community Council creates a space where students, faculty, and staff find common ground on issues to make changes on campus." Brook endorsed Wright's candidacy for the fall because she felt that they

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College Admits 1,350 Students to Class of 2021

By Amelia Pollard
Contributing Writer

Middlebury College's regular decision round for the Class of 2021 yielded 8,910 applicants, from which the College offered admission to 1,350 students. The early decision rounds of December and early February offered 403 students admission, bringing the total number of students admitted to 1,753. Middlebury's acceptance rate for regular decision applicants was 16.7 percent, while the overall acceptance rate, adding the early decision rounds, was 19.7 percent.

"We are pleased that so many bright and accomplished high school seniors are interested in the liberal arts education that Middlebury provides," said Dean of Admissions Greg Buckles. "Our pool of admitted students is as strong as ever, with excellent records in academics and extracurricular activities."

"We've maintained a steady, effective and reliable pool of between 8,500 and 9,000 applications for many years now," Buckles noted. However, this year marks the third-largest applicant pool in the College's history.

In a continued effort to create an increasingly diverse community, Manuel Carballo, Director of Admissions, noted that there was an increase of 14.7 percent in admitted students of color this year. And in keeping with the College's effort to foster a globally-oriented campus, according to Carballo, there was also an 8.5 percent rise in international applicants.

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>
> GREG BUCKLES
> DEAN OF ADMISSIONS

Consistent with past years, the students in the Class of 2021 hail from 49 states (all but North Dakota), as well as Washington, D.C. and Puerto Rico. There are also 66 countries represented among this year's accepted students, several more than those admitted last year.

Campus Preview Days will take place from April 17 to 19, when students accepted through the regular decision process are invited to spend the night on campus. It is an opportunity for administrators and students to showcase what the College has to offer — a-cappella concerts and panel discussions are expected — and is perhaps the best chance for the Admissions Office to win over wavering candidates.

Middlebury expects 605 students to enroll in September 2017, and another 100 to join the class in February 2018. The College plans to award nearly $2 million more in financial aid next academic year and expects to distribute $12.5 million among students who have demonstrated need.

Applicants learned of their fate through an online student portal on Saturday, March 18, starting at 8 a.m. Eastern Time. The admissions office also mailed letters to students on Friday, March 17.

Faculty Talk Merits of Free Speech Proposal

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motion, but because of the timing, process and way in which it was introduced.

The faculty who drafted the substitute motion met on April 5, and decided to reject debating the "Freedom of Expression Policy" because they believe that it is necessary to discuss the College's shared values before discussing future policy implementations. They also believe that policy changes should not occur in the midst of investigations into the protests on March 2.

"There are disciplinary actions currently underway concerning a number of our students, and potentially even our faculty and staff colleagues," Mittell said. "Changing our handbook language in ways that pertain to those investigations and accusations in the midst of the proceedings is potentially damaging to the integrity (perceived or in practice) of our judicial process."

He also argued that the passage of such a motion would only strengthen current political divides on campus.

"Presenting this policy now will be treated as a referendum on the March 2nd event, and our current factionalization will become even more polarized and destructive," he said. "Regardless of its intent, this motion will be regarded by many as a direct rebuke against colleagues and students, rather than a sincere statement of principles. Even some who agree with the spirit of the policy will always regard it as tainted by politics."

Mittell ended his remarks by saying that the passage of such a motion should not be done without consulting students and staff. The motion that he introduced recommended that changes to the handbook regarding free speech should be discussed and drafted by the ad hoc committee of students, faculty and staff that will soon be established by the Office of the Provost.

"We ask that one goal of this joint committee will be to consider and offer recommendations for actions, policies and statements that can help us move forward and assert shared community values which all constituencies can commit to collaboratively," reads the motion. "We also ask that relevant policy recommendations should be considered by this joint committee before being voted on by other policy-making bodies, to ensure an inclusive and deliberative process."

Per Robert's Rules of Order, the discussion then turned into a debate between the two motions. Several faculty members supported the substitute motion and the delay of the first motion, citing that the introduction of the first motion was done too soon. Other faculty members spoke in favor of the first motion, and argued that, by delaying discussion of the "Freedom of Expression Policy," the substitute motion limited the ability of the faculty to debate issues of free speech.

"From the outset we made it clear that we had no intention of trying to ram [the first proposal] through without time for consideration and debate. We have brought it forward as one discussion point in a broader conversation about our values as an academic community," Meyers said. "The original version of the substitute motion was quite shocking to me in that it gags and binds the faculty in addressing any concrete proposals related to the Murray incident until next winter. The 'friendly amendment' removes the gag, but I'm still quite troubled that some colleagues want to constrain faculty governance."

"If passed, the substitute motion would have been a novelty in the annals of faculty governance: a faculty voting to forbid itself from discussing something," Callanan said.

However, those who supported the substitute motion argued that delaying discussion and a vote on the "Freedom of Expression Policy" did not limit the faculty's ability to talk about the issue, rather, it allowed for the faculty to engage in a conversation about these values with the broader community.

"The initial motion frames the entire conversation around the free speech policy proposal on the faculty floor, which drastically limits what issues might be addressed and who can participate. Our substitute motion embraces multiple issues beyond just free speech, such as inclusivity, diversity and community, and brings students and staff to the table as well," Mittell said. "Our colleagues on Faculty Council and the Provost's office are sponsoring many opportunities for community discussions on these issues, so I see no lack of open conversations in a wide range of venues. In short, our substitute motion actually aims to broaden the terms, scope and inclusivity of speech about the March 2nd events and their aftermath."

After a lengthy debate at the April 9 meeting, the faculty did not vote on the two proposals. Debate will continue at the May 16 meeting which will be held at 3 p.m. at Wilson Hall in the McCullough Student Center.

DUNN, SOHN RUN FOR SGA PRES.

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not ignored.

Dunn also believes that general SGA emails should be sent to the entirety of the student body to ensure that all classes and groups have access to pertinent information on campus. A widespread email educating all students on the issue of restorative justice, for example, could ensure that students fully understand this process and what punishments are currently in place regarding acts such as protesting.

Jin Sohn '18

Sohn has served as SGA chief of staff since the beginning of the spring semester. Previously, she served as first-year and sophomore senator.

During her sophomore year, Sohn worked alongside the Center for Careers & Internships to create a sophomore conference program that strived to further inform students about their major/minor decisions. Then, during her junior year, she worked on legislation that ultimately created bodies such as the taskforce for inclusivity and accessibility. This year, Sohn has spearheaded the effort to coordinate Staff Appreciation Day, which will fall on Thursday, April 20 and enable students to demonstrate their gratitude towards teachers and staff members.

Sohn has specified two main pillars within her candidacy platform: the need to both improve administrative transparency and address issues of diversity and inclusivity.

The first pillar of Sohn's platform is based on the need to expand administrative accountability and accessibility on campus. One way she intends to pursue this goal is to restructure Student Advisory Councils (SACs) and alter their priorities from the classroom to broader, campus-wide issues. To facilitate this transition, she would implement a system of internal review to ensure that every department has a SAC and that the students within that SAC are being fairly represented.

Another way Sohn hopes to increase accountability and transparency is by further incorporating students within faculty selection processes. Sohn believes that additional student input on faculty hiring, assignments and cultural sensitivity training will curb potential distrust between students and the administration while also improving the overarching atmosphere on campus.

Sohn has similarly expressed her desire to create SGA workshops and informational sessions that extend beyond the SGA's previous coffee and office hours and make the governmental body more accessible for students. Sohn attributes the low student participation rate during previous informational events to the SGA's status as a formal and bureaucratic body that is somewhat disconnected from its student constituencies. Consequently, she hopes to further instruct students on their ability to construct SGA bills and interact with the student government through more frequent and approachable SGA workshops.

Sohn's goal to address inclusivity and diversity rests upon her belief that Middlebury students need to feel represented and safe on campus to foster a productive learning environment. One way she will work towards improving inclusivity is to reintroduce the Middkid card, a card accessible to all students that provides discounts to local restaurants and vendors. By working alongside the Better Middlebury Partnership (BMP) organization, Sohn hopes that the reintroduction of the Middkid card alongside the new dining hall swipe system will provide fairer alternative options for low income students and athletes who have restricted mealtimes.

Additionally, Sohn intends to create a personal finance navigator for Middlebury students, a service that is already offered at other NESCAC schools. This navigator would come in either the form of an app that provides students with pertinent financial information or a set of training sessions that educate students about how to file taxes, rent an apartment and additional financial topics prior to graduating college.

To improve communication and participation within the SGA itself, Sohn has also proposed a mentorship program between newly elected senators and more experienced representatives. She hopes that such a system will ease the learning curve for new senators and enable weekly meetings to run more efficiently.

Both candidates are expected to participate in the debate at Crossroads Café on Thursday, April 13.

CO-CHAIR CANDIDATES TALK PLATFORMS, VISION

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had similar platforms and that they would work together to ensure a smooth transition. As prior experience, Brook noted her time as a First Year Senator, though she ended her work with SGA after her first year because "she felt like I had made strong connections with the administration in my first year, so I knew who to go to on issues I wanted to make changes." She also served on the Residential Life Committee for two years.

Jack Carew '20

Carew is running for the full year, and told the *Campus* that he felt his inexperience in student government could be an asset in his run for Co-Chair. His platform includes similar language, stating, "I am uniquely able to provide an outsider's unbiased perspective on student government at Middlebury, and if I am lucky enough to gain your support, I will bring no preconceived notions to Community Council." He also discussed his initial trepidation about running, but said that he became increasingly confident as he gathered signatures that he could be a competent Co-Chair.

Charles Rainey '19

Rainey is running for the spring semester and has three main goals in his platform: inclusion, access, and outreach. His prior experience includes service as a First Year Senator, co-chair of the First Year Committee and a member of Community Council during his sophomore year. He has also served for two years on the Residential Life Committee. In his interview with *Campus*, he said, "I want to introduce MIDDSibs, a program which will pair upperclassmen with first-years. I believe this program will keep our first-year retention rates high."

Kyle Wright '19.5

Wright, who is running for the fall semester only, is a current First Year Counselor in Stewart Hall and Brainerd Commons Senator. He is a member of Middlebury Musicians United as well as Oratory Now. Speaking to the *Campus*, Wright said, "I have been able to embed myself pretty deeply into the system that involves governance here and get substantive change passed and start conversations that otherwise I think would not be going on right now." His platform includes five sections: inclusivity and community building, budgeting and financial sustainability, compassion, expression and conversation, transparency and accountability and specific initiatives. In these sections he outlined specific policy proposals such as supporting "the creation of a Black or Ethnic Studies department" and "prioritizing financial aid."

All four candidates are expected to participate in the debate at Crossroads Café on Thursday, April 13. The event will be moderated by Ellie Reinhardt '17, Editor-in-Chief of the Campus, *and William Weightman '17, SGA Director of Membership.*

Fund for Innovation Festival Launches to Celebrate Culture of Educational Initiatives

By Bridget Colliton
Contributing Writer

Middlebury College's Fund for Innovation Festival began on April 6 with a keynote address delivered by Professor David Helfand. The goal of the festival was to showcase student and faculty work sponsored by Middlebury's Fund for Innovation (FFI).

One of the main goals of the festival was to spread awareness of the new fund and the projects that have been accomplished with its support. "We wanted to demonstrate the widespread innovation happening across Middlebury, especially in the places that may surprise our community" said Provost of the College Susan Baldridge. "With greater awareness of the fund and what it can accomplish, we hope that members of the community will begin to imagine how they might initiate innovative efforts at Middlebury."

Helfand is the chair of Columbia University's Department of Astronomy and former president and vice-chancellor of Quest University in Canada. Helfand's speech centered on his experience developing Quest University, a Canadian non-profit university founded in 2007 that employs a non-traditional educational model. Quest University has no academic departments and students do not choose majors. Rather, Quest follows the educational model used at Colorado College, in which students take a single class in three and a half week blocks. Within these classes, students interact and learn collaboratively rather than listening to a professor. Helfand argues that in this age of rapid information transfer, colleges and universities need to reexamine their educational models.

"We need to create a situation in which students learn how to construct information for themselves. But most importantly how to use tools, how to recruit tools from a variety of academic disciplines and apply them to a set of information and create something unique and new and valuable to the student and to society" Helfand said.

Towards the end of his address, Helfand led the audience through a series of interactive activities that allowed the audience to deduce Einstein's Theory of Relativity with very little formal guidance, modeling the educational approach taken at Quest. Like at Quest, Helfand sought to make the information accessible to students of all disciplines. "The diagrams were really cool. I'm not really studying any science and had no ambition to figure out Einstein's Theory of Relativity, but I'm leaving here really happy that I came" Maggie Joseph '20 said.

> ***"We need to create a situation in which students learns how to construct information for themselves."***
>
> **DAVID HELFAND**
> PROFESSOR AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Many undergraduate students who attended Helfand's speech found Helfand's non-traditional model of education compelling. "I think that when you're at an institution and taking courses and interacting with professors in a certain type of way it's really refreshing to hear about a different structure or way of learning. I think it's really important to keep an open mind and recognize that just because we're used to doing something one way doesn't mean that that can't change" Allegra Molkenthin '19.5 said.

The keynote speech, delivered by Helfand, was followed by an informal breakfast and educational mini panel on Friday. An exhibition of creative projects led by students and faculty followed, including work by Professor Dana Yeaton and student Kali McGown '17. All of the projects presented centered around 2017's FFI theme of educational innovation, which was determined by President of Middlebury Laurie L. Patton in an effort to help strengthen Middlebury's educational resources.

The Ron and Jessica Liebowitz Fund for Innovation (FFI) was established in March 2015 in order to help support a culture of creativity at Middlebury. The fund provides grants for proposals over $2,000 twice a year and under $2,000 on a rolling basis. "The FFI is open to the entire Middlebury community and provides support to unconventional and experimental projects that have the potential to strengthen Middlebury's educational experience," Baldridge said.

Gensler Family Symposium Focuses on "Sex and the State"

By James Finn
Contributing Writer

This year's Gensler Family Symposium, entitled "Sex and the State: Feminist Responses to Masculine Politics," will run from April 10 to April 14. The symposium will consist of an array of events that will explore "the connections between gender hierarchies, the political arena and feminist resistance," according to the symposium's webpage.

Gender, Sexuality and Feminist studies professor Kevin Moss began the symposium at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, April 10, with a talk in the Robert A. Jones Conference Room entitled "Russia as a savior of European Civilization: Gender and the Geopolitics of Traditional Values." On Wednesday at 7 p.m., the student-produced video "Views on Reproductive Rights," which consists of interviews with other Middlebury students, was presented in Crossroads Cafe. Former Vermont gubernatorial candidate Sue Minter will give her talk "A Woman in the Arena" tonight at 7 p.m. in Dana Auditorium.

Associate Professor of Sociology and Gender, Sexuality and Feminist Studies Laurie Essig was one of the symposium's organizers. According to Essig, the group of faculty organizers who planned the events chose the symposium's focus based on observations that politics have been infused with patriarchal trends of late.

"The group of faculty [members] that met, about ten of us from across disciplines, felt as if, no matter who won the US election, there was some sort of global rise in highly patriarchal politicians and political parties," Essig said.

Sarah Champ '17, who helped to organize the student presentations that took place in Crossroads on Wednesday, said that she hopes the symposium compels students to think about their roles in power dynamics in society and how they push back against these roles.

"I think the unifying theme of 'Sex and the State' is really about understanding the complexity of our roles as students, professors, scholars and activists in relation to our many identities and to the state," said Champ. "How do we understand the role of the state in our socio-political reality? How do concepts of negative and positive liberty characterize the state's intervention or lack thereof into the lives of citizens in ways that are empowering or oppressive? How are we implicated within these oppressive structures? What potential is there for activism and resistance? What can that activism and resistance look like? How does it need to evolve?"

Each of the week's speakers will bring an array of perspectives to the discussion of gender and sex in current politics. According to Essig, the symposium's organizers observed a nostalgia for patriarchal structures in current politics that they felt Moss's work could shed light on.

"We see [current] parties as both nostalgic for more hierarchal gender roles, more clearly defined racial hierarchies and an imagined 'nation' that is both bounded and unpolluted by 'otherness,'" she said. "We felt Professor Moss could really speak to how this is a 'global nostalgia for the imagined nation' because his work looks at how Russian nationalism intersects with white, Christian nationalism in the U.S. and elsewhere in Europe."

Minter's experience will lend a perspective to the symposium from within the political sphere.

"Sue Minter was one of only two women to run for governor this past election cycle," Essig said. "Her experience of the U.S. political climate and the misogyny and hypermasculinity that motivated much of the presidential campaign gives us a 'view from inside the arena.'"

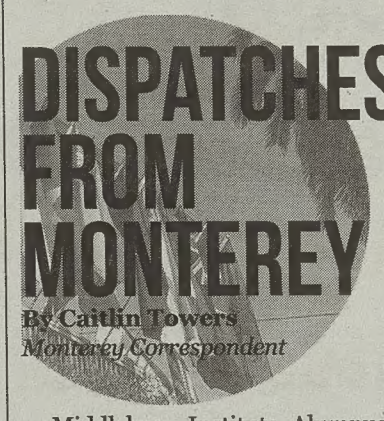
Minter said she wanted to talk about women leaders. "The unfortunate reality that we still have a long way to go. The failure of our nation to elect an experienced, intelligent, successful woman as President, and to elect instead a man who is a misogynistic and xenophobe means we need to convene, to converse and to act," she said. "I want students to know how important their leadership role can be in promoting change, and to realize how much our world needs young people to learn, to stand up and to speak out for a more just future."

Champ said the hoped student presentations held on Wednesday shed light on dynamics behind resistance as well. "Several students collaborated to make a short video with interview footage from other students about what reproductive justice means," Champ said of Wednesday's event.

"The event will include a screening of the video and a discussion with professors and students," added Champ. "We are really hoping this event conveys the importance and relevance of activism and resistance around reproductive rights in the current political climate, and that a conversation about reproductive justice is about much more than the pro-life versus pro-choice abortion framework."

Essig hopes that the symposium will draw members of the Middlebury community who may not have involved themselves in discussions about gender in the past.

"As you know, people rarely push themselves outside of their academic silos," she said. "So, people who think feminism is an important set of tools for understanding how the world works will come [to forums such as these]. It is always my hope, however, that someone will be interested in a theme or a presenter and stumble upon feminist studies. If so, we promise to provide you with a lot to think about and welcome you to a larger community of feminist thinkers on campus with whom you might further explore these issues."



DISPATCHES FROM MONTEREY

By Caitlin Towers
Monterey Correspondent

Middlebury Institute Alumnus Clinton Watts testified before the United States Senate Intelligence Committee on March 30 to discuss Russia's potential influence on the most recent American presidential election. Watts graduated from the Middlebury Institute in 2005, and has studied Russian strategy and government in depth over the course of his career.

He is currently a senior fellow at the Foreign Policy Research Institute. A U.S. Army Veteran, Watts also served as the executive director of the Combatting Terrorism Center at West Point and on a Joint Terrorism Task Force as an FBI special agent. His work includes an exploration of the adaptation of tactics and strategies from the Soviet Era to the digital age. His testimony before the Committee explored the possibility that automated bots were used to undermine the political campaigns of American presidential candidates.

A Middlebury Institute student pursuing a master's degree in Business Administration in Global Impact Management has recently been awarded a Projects for Peace Fellowship for $10,000. Christina Lukeman, the recipient of the fellowship, designed a project to increase business literacy among women in the Boeung Kak Lake region of Cambodia. Lukeman travelled to Cambodia before she arrived at MIIS as well as during her most recent J-term as a student at the Institute. This fellowship will allow her to pursue her investment in the region, and she plans to return to Cambodia this summer to begin offering training sessions.

This past weekend, the Institute hosted the Fund for Innovation Festival. The festival culminated in a project showcase where students presented their current fund for innovation projects to other members of the MIIS community. A panel on educational innovation preceded the showcase, and over the course of the morning a number of students and faculty members flocked to the Institute's digital learning center to experiment with virtual reality and learn about new types of digital language learning being developed by community members.

This weekend also marked the Middlebury Institute's preview days, and on Saturday prospective students were greeted warmly by an International Bazaar. The bazaar featured music and dance from a variety of cultures, including performances and lessons from Taiko drummers and the latin dance club. International cuisines were represented at numerous food tables such as Fair Traders at MIIS, the Korean Culture Club and Afghan Village. Food was available for purchase throughout the event, and submissions to the Middlebury Institute photo contest were also on display. Votes for the winners of the nature, people and places categories were cast during the international bazaar.

This past week, two students in the Institute's International Education Management program turned a school project into a real opportunity for California high schoolers. Ashley Bayman and David Austin, students set to graduate in 2018, had collaborated on a project earlier this semester for a course entitled Internationalization K-12. The assignment was focused on the implementation of the International Baccalaureate program in the local Monterey high school, and Bayman and Austin's project, "Empowering Kids to Make a Difference in the World", brought students to the MIIS campus. After receiving the support of a professor at the Institute, 12 students from the local high school were invited to campus where they participated in an intercultural communications discussion of culture shock, went on a campus tour and had the opportunity to speak with a panel of five current students at the Institute. Bayman and Austin hope that this project will lead to concrete opportunities for students at the Monterey high school in years to come.

Vermont to Hold First Annual Cannabis Week

Jules Morales
Staff Writer

There are a number of events that people associate with the month of April: spring, Easter, the rush to file taxes and — for some — the infamous "holiday" on April 20 of each year. Over four decades after a group of high school students in Northern California began the so-called tradition of "lighting up" at 4:20 p.m., 4/20 has found its way beyond the Golden State and is now a familiar term for smokers and non-smokers alike.

The increase in familiarity signals a shift in attitudes toward the once-taboo topic of marijuana and marijuana usage, inspiring many individuals and groups across the nation to speak openly about the subject in recent years. In hopes of raising awareness of cannabis culture and promoting advocacy on the matter, Vermont Cannabis Association recently announced the first annual "Vermont Cannabis Week." Vermont Cannabis Week will take place between Wednesday, April 19 and Wednesday, April 26.

"Once we realized 4/20 was only two months away, we decided that we wanted to do something to raise awareness about cannabis culture and legislation in the state," said Daniel Giangreco, managing director of Vermont Cannabis Week. "Once we put the idea out there, many people showed interest. Essentially, we started putting everything together a month ago."

Giangreco went on to emphasize his desire to ensure that Vermont Cannabis Week brings together a wide range of perspectives on the marijuana issue. Giangreco hopes to ensure that all sides have an opportunity to converge and engage in discussion, from entrepreneurs to law enforcement officials, farmers to healthcare providers and researchers to current and future medicinal marijuana patients.

"We're trying to highlight how diverse this community is," Giangreco said. "The board [for Vermont Cannabis Week] has statewide representation; there are Ph.Ds., botanists, lawyers, entrepreneurs, farmers, media and technology experts. [Everyone is] so on point, so dedicated, and so passionate about this."

Cannabis Week comes at a time when "the majority of Vermonters are in support of loosening marijuana laws; those who are not in favor have matured on the issue and will continue to do so as more legislation is passed, attitudes continue to change and the industry matures," Giangreco mentioned. "Honestly, we have not met any pushback. There has been no negative posting on social media and no board members are receiving negative criticism. Any opposition to legalization within the state is primarily coming from out-of-state groups."

Giangreco commented on a challenge they are facing.

"However, the Chittenden County Law Enforcement Executive Committee recently submitted a letter to the legislature in opposition to marijuana legalization. Unfortunately, the letter included a lot of misconstrued data. This is concerning because we need the public's trust on this issue. As things calm down, I hope that these groups will come around and be able to have a discussion to ensure safe and responsible use. These people are partners and important to work with," Giangreco added.

> ***"The board [for Vermont Cannabis Week] has statewide representation; there are Ph.Ds., botanists, lawyers, entrepreneurs, farmers, media and technology experts. [Everyone is] so on point, so dedicated, and so passionate about this"***
>
> DANIEL GIANGRECO
> MANAGING DIRECTOR OF VERMONT CANNABIS WEEK

Cannabis Week also arrives at a time when the Vermont legislature is weighing a number of pending legislations on marijuana. Pending bills include S. 16, which would increase access to medicinal cannabis use by adding PTSD, Parkinson's disease and Crohn's disease to the list of qualifying conditions. This bill was passed by the Vermont Senate in February of this year and the bill will soon be considered by the House. There is also H. 170, a bill sponsored by the leadership of the House Judiciary Committee. According to the Marijuana Policy Project, H.170 "would simply eliminate penalties for adults' possession of one ounce or less of marijuana, up to two mature plants and up to four immature plants — as well as the marijuana that is produced by those plants, if its stored in accordance with the law."

A poll conducted by the Marijuana Policy Project found that 57 percent of Vermonters support the bill. Also, a legislatively-commissioned report by the Rand Corporation found that "about 80,000 Vermonters regularly consume marijuana, and they spend about $175 million each year buying cannabis."

However, gaining more support for other legislation has not been easy. Last year, the Vermont Senate passed S. 241, a marijuana legalization and regulation bill, but it was no match for opposition in the House, where it did not pass. Under the administration of Vermont's new Governor Phil Scott (R), the prospects of full legalization look bleak as Scott has admitted that he is not in favor of marijuana legalization.

"Legislators have pushed back when contacted on the issue of marijuana. [We usually] try to grab their attention through advocacy and lobbying. Now it's time to show them rather than tell them; lines of cars, full restaurants, getting people out and getting people excited. It's time to have fun with this," Giangreco shared when asked about the pending bills.

Currently, Vermont Cannabis Week has organized 15 events, all of which are listed on Vermont Cannabis Week's Facebook page. These events range from a glass-blowing challenge hosted by Burn Gallery in Burlington, two 4/20 parties — one hosted by Zenbarn in Stowe and the other hosted by media company Heady Vermont at the Skinny Pancake in Burlington — plus a class on the therapeutic uses for medical cannabis at RAILYARD Apothecary in Burlington. Greener Mountain Consulting will also be hosting an event titled "Get Legal: How to Join Vermont's Marijuana Registry" at UVM's Dana Medical Library in order to help "community members interested in becoming medical cannabis patients."

While Giangreco hopes that these events draw attendees, he wants Vermonters to use this momentum and inspiration to take matters into their own hands.

"One of the events we're organizing is a Vermont Potluck. We encourage small groups of people to meet up and discuss cannabis legislation amongst themselves and reach out to lawmakers and political figures," he said.

As for bill S.16, Giangreco is confident that it will pass and stands by the belief that one of the biggest obstacles standing in the way of marijuana legalization within the state is the issue of driving under the influence.

"While I'm confident things will be okay on the medical front, there is much concern over driving and developing a convenient roadside test. Legislation pertaining to driving under the influence has not done much to curb the issue. There really is no easy way to solve this problem quite yet."

At the end of the interview, Giangreco voiced one final concern regarding Vermont Cannabis Week. "I don't want this to be misconstrued as a promotion of Vermont Cannabis Week to college students because of recent studies showing the negative impact cannabis has on the developing brain. Nonetheless, I hope that this will be a week where people can find a safe, politically and ideologically, space to have these kinds of conversations. Hopefully we'll find a way to integrate college students in the future."

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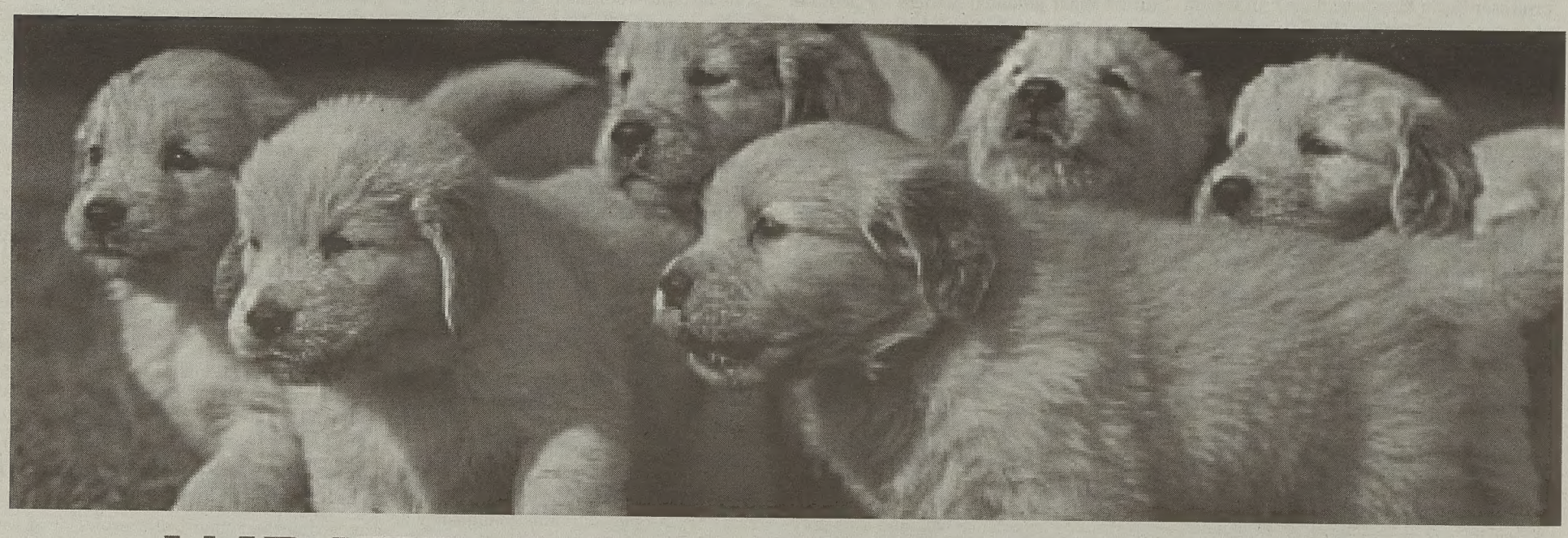

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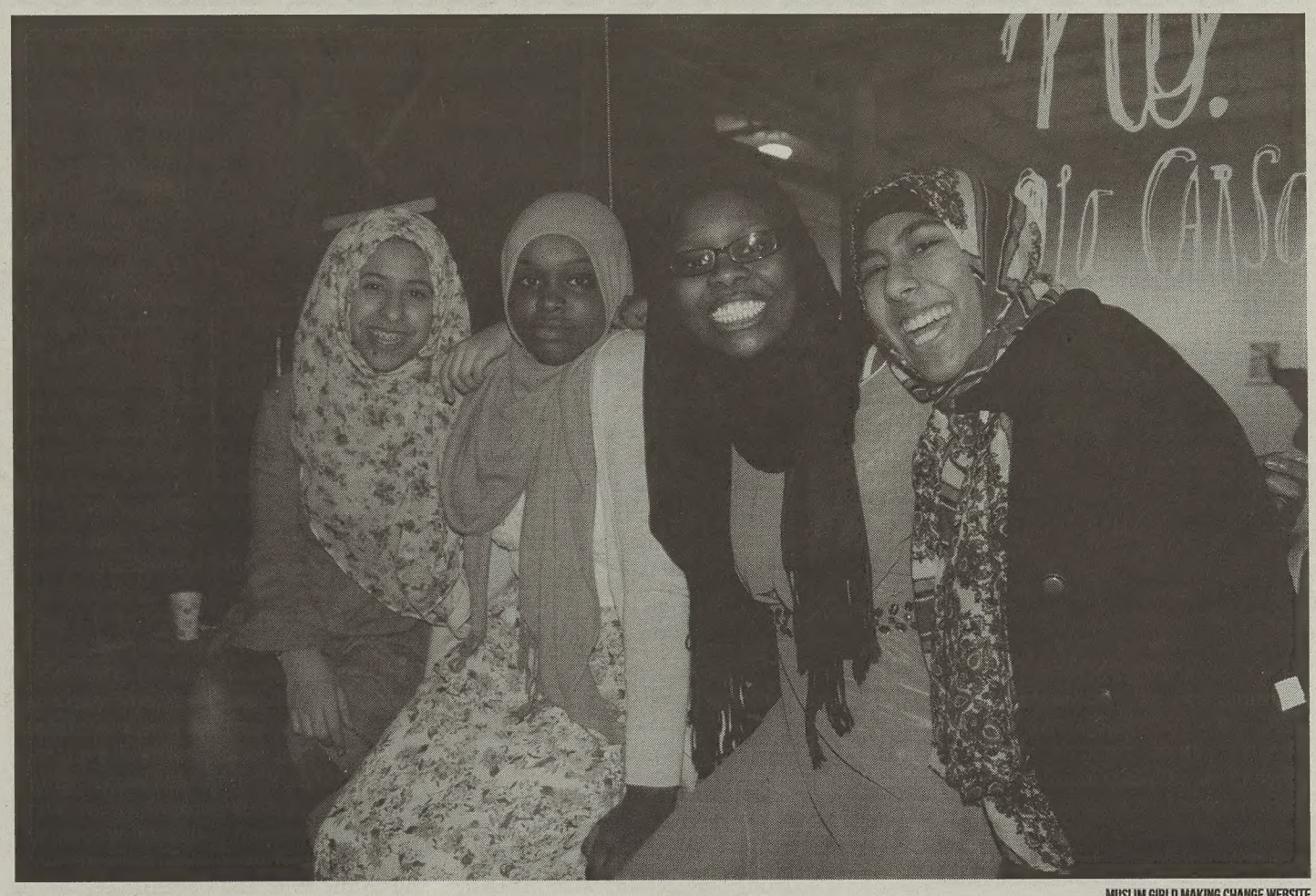
Young Writers Project Awarded Grant to Reduce Bias Against Muslims through Art



MUSLIM GIRLD MAKING CHANGE WEBSITE

Muslim Girls Making Change leaders will serve as the core energy and leadership of Young Writers Project's grant initiative.

By Rebecca Walker
Local News Editor

The Young Writers Project (YWP) of Vermont has won a grant of $90,000 over two years from the Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art, a New York City-based organization. Along with 11 other organizations in the country, YWP will create a youth-led project as part of the Building Bridges Program. The aim of the project will be to reduce bias and strengthen understanding between Muslim and non-Muslim communities through art.

"We are going to hold workshops of all kinds intended to focus on Muslim students, but also to include non-Muslim youth, both of color and white, to help them write and create art intended to reveal what their lives are like, what challenges they face, how they view the world and what they dream," Geoffrey Gevalt, YWP director, said in an email to *The Campus*.

These workshops will be on the smaller scale so that they can be more powerful and personal. YWP hopes that the workshops will allow youths who are different from each other to connect in some way before their work is published.

According to Gevalt, participants in the project will be able to post their work on private spaces online where peer feedback will be available. Later on, the final pieces of work will be made public and YWP will publish them in places like *The Voice*, the organization's monthly digital magazine.

Additionally, the grant project will include an invitation to a powerful Muslim artist who will present to the public and will assist in creating an open dialogue. YWP is also planning a two-day conference aimed at promoting Muslim culture and fostering conversation that could eventually lead to work for the final project.

Gevalt explained that members of Muslim Girls Making Change (MGMC), a youth group dedicated to social justice through poetry, will be the core and leadership of the grant project. MGMC is a youth-led group created by Kiran Waqar, Hawa Adam, Lena Ginawi and Balkisa Abdikadir. The group has competed internationally in addition to participating in slam poetry shows all over the state of Vermont. A program director will also be hired in the future to supplement the youth leadership of the project.

> ***"Whether it be through poetry like MGMC or through photography, I want people to realize their voice matters like I did. However, I don't want it to end there. I want people to use what they've learned and apply that to make change"***
>
> KIRAN WAQAR

"I hope that this grant will promote conversation and discussions," Kiran Waqar, a high school junior and leader of MGMC, wrote in an email to *The Campus*. "Whether it be through poetry like MGMC or through photography, I want people to realize their voice matters like I did. However, I don't want it to end there. I want people to use what they've learned and apply that to make change."

Waqar also shared that she has learned through her performances that there is a great deal of ignorance and general misunderstandings in Vermont communities. She hopes that she and her peers in MGMC will be able to combat some of those misunderstandings with this grant.

These goals were echoed by Gevalt as well. "Our nearly primary goals are that these youths will help the State of Vermont understand more about Muslim youths, youths of color and other youths who don't have much voice ... We hope that some of these youths become leaders to continue the program and to take visible action within the community to foster both discussion and change," Gevalt wrote.

In terms of participants and leaders for this project, Waqar shared that she has already begun recruiting her peers and that the response has been great. Waqar, along with other members of MGMC, will take on the largest role in recruiting youths since they interact with students every day, but YWP will also play a role in promoting the event.

> ***"We are going to hold workshops of all kinds intended to focus on Muslim students, but also to include non-Muslim youth, both of color and white, to help them write and create art intended to reveal what their lives are like, what challenges they face, how they view the world and what they dream"***
>
> GEOFFREY GEVALT
>
> DIRECTOR OF YOUNG WRITERS PROJECT

At all times, YWP encourages youths to share their stories to increase understanding across the board.

"To me, writing is exploration, so that's part of what we want to get the kids to do," Gevalt said. "We see that in helping people understand. Teens go through a lot, and what is really interesting to us is that there is a lot of commonality."

Although the grant project is new, the work of YWP and Gevalt is already well established. Gevalt shared that he first conceived of the Young Writers Project in 1997 when he was working at the Akron Beacon Journal. At this time, Gevalt was involved in a project in which a classroom of fourth graders and a classroom of eighth graders were asked to write letters to President Clinton and share a story about race with him. At this point, Gevalt remembers realizing that the fourth graders' stories were far more interesting and substantial than the stiff, conditioned stories of the eighth graders.

In 2006, the Vermont Business Roundtable gave Gevalt the chance to start resolving this writing problem and this is when he started the Young Writers Project. From the start of the project, Gevalt aimed to offer alternatives to traditional classroom writing guidelines, hoping to prevent the school system from ruining kids' love of writing and their ability to write well. He has also emphasized the value of narrative writing.

"Kids are learning to write for a grade and for test scores," Gevalt said. "The goal should be to teach kids how to love writing, to love storytelling, to gain the confidence to express themselves well."

The Young Writers Project runs a website with a community of about 3,500 people, mostly teens. 85 percent of the community members are from Vermont and the rest come from remote locations such as Sri Lanka, Egypt and California. The organization also hosts workshops, events and conferences and their website offers a YWP academy where students have the option to take month-long workshops. They also work in schools and offer professional development to teachers.

According to Gevalt, since the creation of YWP, they have connected with over 100,000 youths and published the work of more than 17,000 youths. Additionally, they have trained over 2,000 teachers and seen upwards of 400,000 mostly civil posts and comments on youngwritersproject.org, the organization's website.

SEVEN DAYS VERMONT

Members of MGMC have competed internationally in slam poetry contests.

OPINIONS

Disclaimer: Reader op-eds do not reflect the opinion of *The Middlebury Campus* editorial board.

SGA & Comm. Council Endorsements

EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of the editorial board of The Middlebury Campus

The Campus Editorial Board is excited to endorse Jin Sohn '18 for SGA President. We are impressed by Jin's dedication to student government, her work ethic and clear platform — which includes attainable goals. We found Jin to be pragmatic and optimistic in equal measure and were impressed by her constructive plans for her potential presidency. We find Jin exceptionally qualified for the position and are excited about the energy and leadership she would bring to the SGA.

With respect to the Community Council Co-Chair position, we appreciate the effort each candidate is devoting to their campaign and each's commitment to our community. We are, however, disappointed by the change in the bylaws allowing candidates to serve for only one semester. Although we understand the desire to accommodate those who wish to study abroad, we feel this poses continuity issues for Community Council and feel certain there are passionate students who could and should commit to a year-long position.

With these new bylaws in mind, we would like to endorse Kyle Wright '19.5 as Community Council Co-Chair for the fall of 2017. We are very impressed by his thorough platform, as well as his reputation as a community builder and unifier. Kyle strikes us as not only a talented speaker but also an attentive listener — a trait we believe will serve him well in a fraught campus climate. We also believe Kyle's strong connections with differing members of the Middlebury community, including faculty, will enable him to garner a multitude of perspectives on issues like free speech and inclusivity.

We wish we could endorse Kyle for the full 2017-2018 school year. However, he is running to serve only in the fall. Accordingly, we would also like to endorse Tina Brooks '18, whose platform was also very impressive and has the potential to complement Kyle's well. Tina has demonstrated exceptional qualifications and a strong capacity for collaboration. We see Tina as the candidate who most strongly shares Kyle's principles and objectives for the community, and will therefore offer the smoothest transition of power. We are also impressed by Tina's commitment to community building, and believe that she will facilitate important discussions in a way that will be productive and meaningful for this campus.

We are very excited about both Kyle and Tina, and are greatly appreciative of each candidate's decision to run for Co-Chair. However, we do have a few reservations. We hope that Kyle can narrow the focus of his broad ideological platform. We also worry that Tina, who will be abroad during the fall semester of her senior year, will face challenges adjusting to the tone and pace of the College when she returns. We are concerned that she will struggle to stay up to date on pressing campus issues while she is abroad, or that the nuances of certain issues will be lost in the retelling. We recognize the difficulty of the Co-Chair role, and hope that all the candidates understand the challenges it presents — especially given the discontinuous nature of serving one semester at a time.

While we're excited about the potential of the candidates who chose to run for student government roles, we are somewhat disappointed that so few candidates sought to run at all. An unwillingness to run for SGA President and commit to a year-long term as Community Council Co-Chair reflects, to some degree, apathy on the part of the student body. We thought that there would be qualified and willing candidates able to devote a full year to the Co-Chair position, and were surprised that not one rising senior fit that description. In the face of profound division on campus, the importance of robust, competitive SGA elections cannot be overstated. We urge the student body to make a commitment to vote — between April 18-19 — and elect students who will represent them boldly and well in the governing of the Middlebury College community.

The Middlebury Campus

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Why I Haven't Signed Anything

READER OP-ED

Christian Keathley, Professor of Film & Media Culture, *writes in to complicate and add nuance to the act of signing statements about free speech*

Several weeks ago, in the wake of the Charles Murray protest, professors Jay Parini (ENAM) and Keegan Callanan (PSCI) drafted a declaration regarding Free Inquiry on Campus – a set of "core principles that seem to us unassailable in the context of higher education within a free society" – and they invited their faculty colleagues to sign on in support. This was not the only statement to circulate around this time, but it is the one that has received the most attention and support. While it is indeed hard to argue with most of the principles articulated in the declaration, I have chosen not to sign on for a number of reasons.

First, I'm not sure what this statement gives us that we don't already have. The college has a handbook that lays out in the clearest terms our community's intellectual values and educational goals, and that also offers a forceful statement on academic freedom. The college handbook asserts that Middlebury "recognizes and affirms that free intellectual inquiry, debate and constructive dialogue are vital to Middlebury's academic mission and must be protected even when the views expressed are unpopular or controversial." While I understand the impulse to publicly restate these values in the wake of the recent events, this declaration ultimately seems to me to be redundant.

Also, it is important to note that free inquiry is not the only core principle to which our college is dedicated. For an institution of higher learning like Middlebury, another core principle would surely be the upholding of certain standards regarding academic and intellectual integrity — and indeed, the college handbook articulates a set of Community Standards that include "encouraging intellectual courage" and "manifesting integrity and honesty," which is precisely what the student protestors felt they were doing. Still another core principle would be a commitment to upholding and defending the human dignity of all members of our community — and here again, the college handbook articulates values such as "cultivating respect and responsibility for self [and] others" and "fostering a diverse and inclusive community," values the student protesters believed Charles Murray's appearance disrespected. The event thus brought at least three core principles into conflict. By way of comparison, we should recall that the unassailable legal rights guaranteed by our Constitution often come into conflict, and in those instances, one right must inevitably cede to another, but the right given priority is different in different cases based on the specific context. Though we are not a federal institution, this model is applicable here, and to say that we should be in agreement that one core principle will, in all instances, take precedence over the others seems to me problematic. Our courts don't see it that way.

Further, I am not sure what problem this declaration solves for us. As the various statements by participants and observers have shown, the question of what actually happened during the Murray protest remains unclear. By this, I don't mean "what happened" in the investigative who-did-what sense, but rather regarding the rationales motivating the various actions of the people involved. I don't think we can claim to know them all. Clearly, one focus of the protests was Murray himself; and the administration was also a focus because many in the college community were upset that co-sponsorship by the Political Science department and the introductory remarks by President Patton elevated the stage (so to speak) for Murray's appearance. These point, in turn, to further issues the protesters seemed to be raising, such as this question: Whose house is this? The student protestors were asserting that it's theirs as well, that they are not merely guests in ours. How to best respond to these issues remains equally unclear. These are complicated matters, and I think there are likely other motivations that have not been fully considered – but they need to be if we are to find a productive way forward. This statement on free inquiry does little to assist in that process of clarification.

Finally, it seems that signing on to such a statement – or not signing on – would serve only to further divide an already divided faculty, or to overstate the division that exists. While there are many who stand firmly on one side or the other of this matter, there are many in the middle who are sympathetic to some of the positions of both sides, but who also see problems with both positions. A list of signatories – and a phantom counter-list of non-signatories – creates the impression that those who signed or who didn't stand in certainty about their opinion on this complex and messy affair, when in fact many do not. It is this space in the middle where the dialogue that could lead to understanding might most productively take place, not in the either/or extremes.

I have taught at Middlebury for 15 years, and I regard our students with deep respect and affection. Like many, I was stunned by the intensity of the protests. Who would have guessed that Middlebury would be the flashpoint for such resistance? I find myself looking out on a campus and a student body that I thought I knew well – but, I suddenly realize, apparently not. I find myself a bit embarrassed about my assumptions.

Like most small, residential liberal arts colleges, Middlebury prides itself on the close relationships that can develop between faculty and students. But a key element of any true relationship – with a family member, spouse, partner, friend, mentor – involves our ability to say and, more importantly, hear: these are my fears, these are my hopes, these are my worries, these are my dreams, this is my sadness, this is my anger. This is what those protesting students were saying to us, and to say and hear deep truths such as these requires trust. If we refuse to listen, then we betray that trust, and ours is not a real relationship – and we are the ones responsible for that.

This declaration regarding Free Inquiry on Campus is not the only statement I did not sign. I was invited to sign others that I also generally agreed with. But such action does not seem to me to be the best next step in our necessary struggle to understand the situation our college faces. Right now, it seems more important to ask questions than to make statements.

Why Middlebury Kids Should Choose MacBooks

READER OP-ED

***The Middlebury College Bookstore Staff** write in to endorse MacBooks*

After we read "Why Middlebury kids choose MacBooks", we at the Bookstore are rather stunned by some glaring omissions and a perpetuation of stereotypes left over from the late 1980s. It also surprises me that choices of software that the College has chosen to deploy turns into a discussion about the shortcomings of Macintosh, rather than limitations of that software. It shows the old myths are still lingering. Let us attempt to dispel them:

MYTH ONE: No support options

One of the things that really bothered us about the article was that Rick James, the college's wireless network admin says that if you have a problem with the Mac you have no choice but to take it to an Apple store. I beg to differ! The College Bookstore employs a certified Mac technician; students only need to bring their Macs to the bookstore. Granted there is a wait, but there would be a wait at an Apple store, and this option is much closer than Albany, NY. The repairs that students bring their Macs in for are often not even Mac-specific problems, like liquid damage and hard drive failures. These same problems can occur with PCs.

MYTH TWO: PCs are Cheaper

I think the "Top Reasons for Buying PCs" pie chart is interesting, not only because the percentages add up to 121 percent, but that supposedly for 59 percent of the respondents, cost is the factor.

Yes, the upfront sticker price is higher than a similarly configured PC, but the attention to detail in a Mac should make the higher price justifiable. The interesting thing is that a Mac is actually cheaper over the life of it ... and not just a little cheaper!

IBM, who currently has over 130,000 Macs and iOS devices, says that managing PCs costs 3x more than Macs, and that they are saving $535 per Mac per four years in comparison to PCs. Just 24 people support all those users. One person per 5,375 employees. This is possible because only 5 percent of the Mac users need to call the help desk, where 40 percent of PC users do.

What is the resale value of a PC vs a Mac? How about seven years? A seven-year old Mac is still worth about $4-600, and can still run the latest OS. A seven year old Dell Inspiron goes for $40-175. Selling a Mac while it is still in the three year warrantee fetches about 70 percent of it's original price.

The College Bookstore is also looking into financing options for students and is always willing to start these discussions if there is enough demand for such a program.

MYTH THREE: PCs are more compatible

It is unfortunate there was a student who went a couple of days without email access on his Mac; perhaps it was the web based mail application Outlook (which is dated and not very compatible with much, including PCs) not a Mac application, but a web application.

The article makes reference to applications that can't run on a Mac, that only work on Windows. It then goes on to ignore the many ways to run Windows on a Mac, which can be subject to the same disadvantages as running Windows on a PC. So should a person choose a computer that can't run Mac software, over a computer that can run Mac, Windows, Linux and Unix?

MYTH FOUR: The Mac is less transparent and harder to troubleshoot

Mr. James is quoted saying, "It's easier to troubleshoot problems on PCs than on MacBooks because there's more transparency to what's 'under the hood'" and then he compares Windows and Linux to iOS (which is on phones and iPads), rather than to MacOS, which is the operating system that MacBooks use.

While what he is saying about iOS is true, iPads and iPhones are designed to just work, and not be messed around with "under the hood." This is a deliberate choice for security and to keep the devices running problem-free. Aside from a lot of broken screens, it is very rare for one to come in with any problem that a restart doesn't fix.

The MacOS doesn't lack transparency, and if you are interested in getting under the hood, just open the Terminal, and the bare UNIX that it is built in is there for the tinkering. But...

The BRILLIANCE of the Mac is that most people don't ever need to go poking around "under the hood."

Let's take installing an app for example. Most apps that a user will need are in the app store. To install an app store app, click on the GET or BUY button and it downloads and installs itself. To uninstall, drag it to the trash.

"We believe the trend in moving to Mac is strong as people start to understand the nature of these myths. We don't know of any Mac users who want to move back to Windows, myself included."

If it isn't available in the app store, you download a "disk image" and open that. (This is a virtual disk which behaves as if you inserted a CD or flash drive.) Inside you usually find two things: Your app and an alias of your Applications folder. To install, you just drag the app onto the applications folder icon.

Though these apps look like a single icon that you click to run, "under the hood" they are "packages" - many files nested into folders by the developer, which you can peruse with one click if you are interested. But the user doesn't even need to know that.

Compare that to a windows app, which runs a "wizard" to install an app, and you have no idea what is getting put where, and how to delete it. Somewhere buried in the control panels is a tool for uninstalling an app. Sometimes the uninstaller tool deletes a resource that another app was counting on, so now you need to reinstall that app.

Can you see how the simple design of an app being a single object that can be dragged to the trash when you are done with it negates the need to go "under the hood"? This is one tiny example of ways the Mac is designed so the user doesn't need to know the secret codes, or how to edit a registry, or the difference in behavior of a slash vs. a backslash, or the correct syntax and IP address to find a printer on the network—oh, the hours wasted!

We believe the trend in moving to Mac is strong as people start to understand the nature of these myths. We don't know of any Mac users who want to move back to Windows, myself included. A MacOS feels like home, if only because it is so intuitive, and kind, and forgiving. Won't you join me there?

A Hillbilly's Elegy

READER OP-ED

***Grace Vedock '20** writes in on the dangers of dismissing flyover states.*

In casual conversation regarding the outcome of the 2016 presidential election, a peer asked me:

"How do we fix them?"

How do we – who is we? – fix them? Wary of my peer's question, I cocked my head in confusion. How do I answer that question; why ask me?

"You're from Kansas, aren't you?"

The "them" expressed by my peer refers to Trump voters – conservatives, Republicans, Southerners, Midwesterners and non-progressives alike: in academic terms, the human subjects of J.D. Vance's "Hillbilly Elegy". So how do we fix them? This "us versus them" mentality accidentally articulated by my peer has been the source of my ideological and personal confusion post-November 8, 2016.

Some part of being from Kansas warrants mocking from my college peers, from calling Kansas a "flyover state" and "irrelevant" to haranguing me with farming puns and being unable to locate it on a map (despite being in the physical center of the country). Some fondly call me Dorothy, making the Wizard of Oz connection often because the movie is their only exposure to Kansas. Besides Kansas basketball, of course, but more on that later.

Some part of going to college in Vermont – a "suburb of Canada," as one of my high school peers deemed it – warrants scorn from my Kansan social circle. To those who label me as a liberal, coastal elite, I'm quick to note that Vermont coastline borders only the freshwater Lake Champlain; I also find irony in the fact that I moved from one rural area to another – from wheat country to dairy country. More aptly, from Cargill to Ben and Jerry's. My Kansas roots show in more ways than one. I come from a long line of Jayhawk blood, and my roommate will attest to my noisy and braggadocious manner of watching March Madness. Despite my being a non-athletic, regular person – "NARP," in college lingo – somewhere deep in my psyche, next to the "liberal" liberal arts education that may or may not be poisoning my mind, I still know the starting lineup of the KU men's basketball 2008 NCAA national championship team.

"Some part of being from Kansas warrants mocking from my college peers, from calling Kansas a "flyover state" and "irrelevant" to haranguing me with farming puns and being unable to locate it on a map."

Any of my close friends will tell you that I have a complex relationship with my Kansan identity. They will show you how to "wave the wheat," as I half-jokingly, half-fondly taught them to do. They will reference my favorite Boulevard Brewing Co. t-shirt, or the plastic bear of local Shawnee honey that I keep in my dorm, were I ever to want to dip my pizza crust in honey, Pyramid Pizza-style (a Lawrence, KS locale). Each of these customs sets me apart from my peers; after all, I have yet to encounter a fellow Kansan on campus.

In academic discussions of the shocking 2016 presidential election, I find some peers making vast generalizations about the swath of land between Boston and the Bay Area. After reading Hillbilly Elegy, they consider themselves experts on the rust belt, Evangelicalism and the 'backwards' mentality of working-class whites. Being from the Midwest – flyover country, "Trump territory," the reddest bloc on the electoral map – has become a sexy asset in conversation. It's a great conversation starter, especially to those who wonder how "we" can fix "them"– how Democrats can win back coal country (of which Kansas is not a part) and get the 'backwards' single-issue voters to support union-allied progressives.

Make no mistake, I am not endorsing the viewpoints of all Kansas voters, nor am I asking "them" to change. As someone who is both "we" and "them," I am stuck between a rock and a hard place. Don't make me choose. Both 'sides' suffer under overgeneralizations by the other; both 'sides' are guilty of rushing to conclusions about the other. So, I urge you to challenge the "us versus them" mentality that may consciously or unconsciously dictate your opinion of states that are not your own. To answer the question of how to fix "them," I suggest dissolving the dichotomy that pits the 'coastal liberals' against the 'forgotten men and women' of Middle America; close your copy of "Hillbilly Elegy" and look around. You may be surprised by what you find.

A Letter to the Well-Intentioned Liberal Professor

Note: The following is an excerpt of a letter the author wrote in response to faculty who championed a "free speech bill" at last week's faculty meeting. It has been modified for publication and wider circulation by the author.

READER OP-ED

***Travis Sanderson '19** writes in about the problematic nature of liberalism*

It is evident that a faction of people in support of "free speech" has emerged. At first, I was hopeful that they would understand and include systemically-imposed silence in their activism. Many of them were known previously to be friends of marginalized students, so that expectation was not unfounded. Many of them had cheered when I delivered a speech following President Trump's Muslim Ban. There, I argued that "if you stand on the sidelines because we are divisive, you are in the way. If you're on the wrong side of history, you are guilty." Perhaps they would understand that any battle for free speech must not condemn the free speech of those that are historically oppressed and whose voices are locked out of community public discourse. Shut-downs of speakers are an exercise of freedom of expression, and bricks in the wall of a proud history of activism among many marginalized groups that decorate the annals of our American history, from Nat Turner to Stonewall, the many fights to realize a better and fuller understanding of the founding ideals. Surely faculty in support of free speech would not be blind to the lessons of history. Surely faculty in support of free speech would not condemn nonviolent tactics. Surely faculty in support of free speech would not repeat the mistakes of people in power that stood in the way of true liberty at every turn, in every movement.

But that was exactly what happened. Some professors called nonviolent protests a "mob," and argued that they were "thugs," consciously employing racially-charged language. Instead of focusing on the actual concerns of marginalized students, these professors critiqued the usage of the term "white supremacist." One even dismissed the entire Broken Inquiry letter, written in the heat of midterms, on the grounds that it still referred to Murray as a "supremacist." That professor, and many of their colleagues in the "free speech" faction, did not acknowledge that the term is a simplification of a much deeper and nuanced problem — that of systemically-imposed silence. They did nothing to acknowledge the actual lived experiences that marginalized students articulated to argue for their free speech.

Some professors even had the gall to say that these protests were divisive, and we didn't need the Left to be split in this day and age. That argument is especially dangerous. It implies that oppressed people don't need to be heard at all. Instead, they should sit back and let resistance happen on the terms of those least affected. If the people most affected by Trump are crying for change, to be heard, maybe those least affected should listen and not stand on pedestals and preach.

From Birmingham Jail, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. faced much of the same conflict as we now do in the aftermath of Charles Murray. Now, instead of the white moderate, we face the well-intentioned liberal professors. The white ministers have become the "free speech" faculty. History is repeated. To parody Dr. King's prescient words, I am gravely disappointed with the well-intentioned liberal professor. I have almost reached the regrettable conclusion that the marginalized student's great stumbling block in his stride toward freedom is not the white nationalist or supremacist, but the well-intentioned liberal professor, who is more devoted to "order" than to justice, who prefers a negative peace which is the absence of tension to a positive peace which is the presence of justice; who constantly says: "I agree with the goal you seek, but I cannot agree with your methods of direct action"; who paternalistically believes he can set the terms for a marginalized person's free speech. Those are exactly the arguments being lobbed at us in the name of "free speech." We should not be disruptive, because that is not civil. We should not rise up at every slight, because that disunites us in the face of Trump. We should not shut down speakers, because that method is not an acceptable form of free speech. To the faculty in support of "free speech" that does not include protection of shut-downs and other methods of expression, I reiterate: if you stand on the sidelines, or shame us for our tactics, you are in the way. You are on the wrong side of history. You are guilty.

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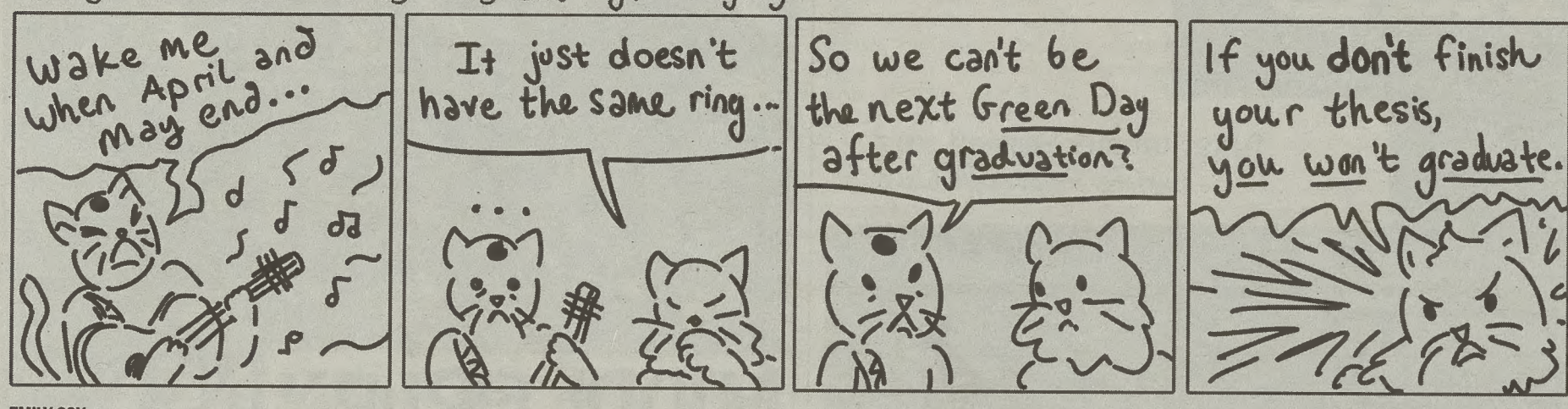
9 A.M. SUNDAY MAY 7, 2017

WANT A PIECE OF THE ACTION?

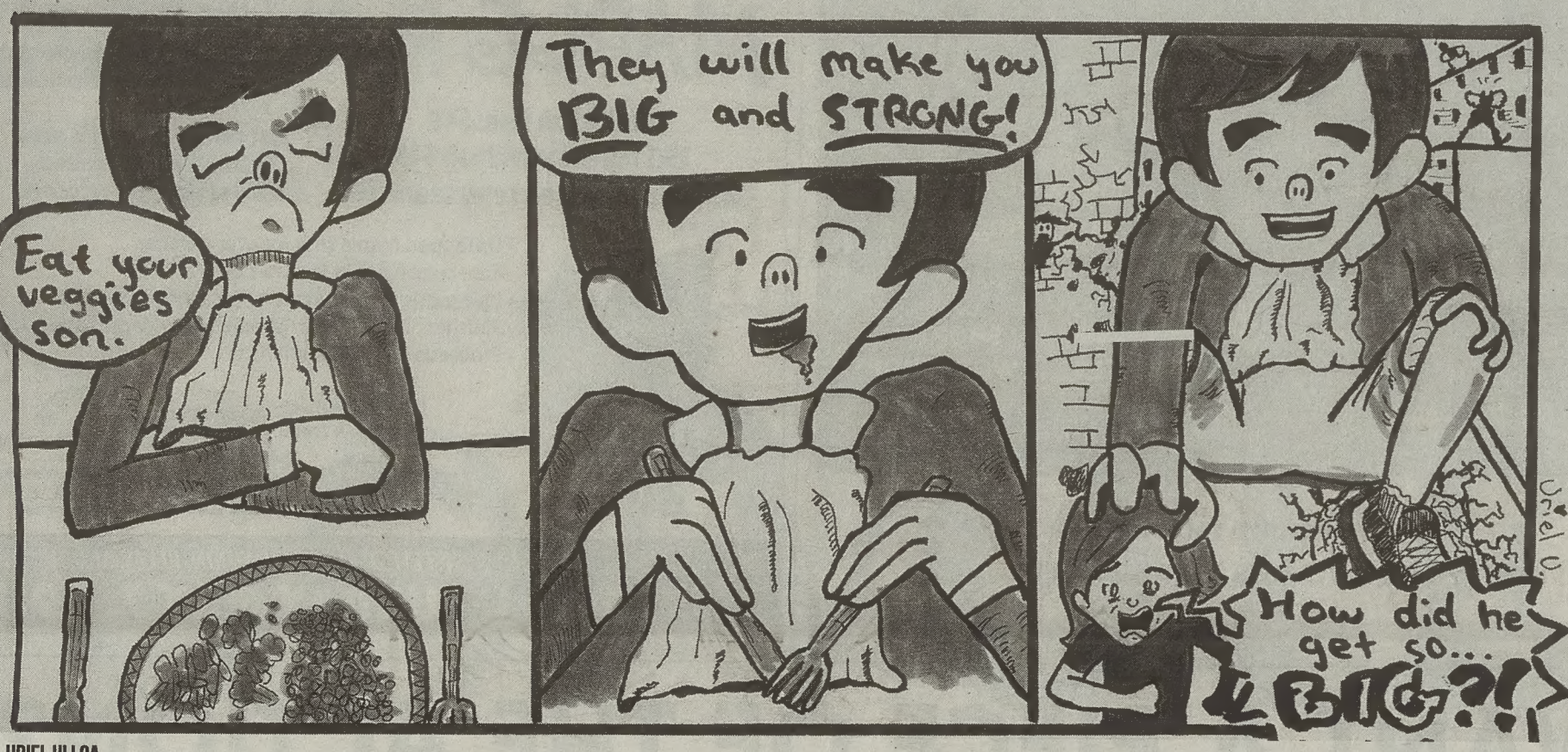
The Middlebury Campus is seeking people to join our team for the fall semester. Writers are needed in the following sections:

To express interest, please send an email to **campus@middlebury.edu** detailing the section(s) for which you'd like to write.

CARTOONS


College Cats: Senior Year by Emily Cox go/comicsbyemily
Wake me when April and May end...
It just doesn't have the same ring...
So we can't be the next Green Day after graduation?
If you don't finish your thesis, you won't graduate.

EMILY COX



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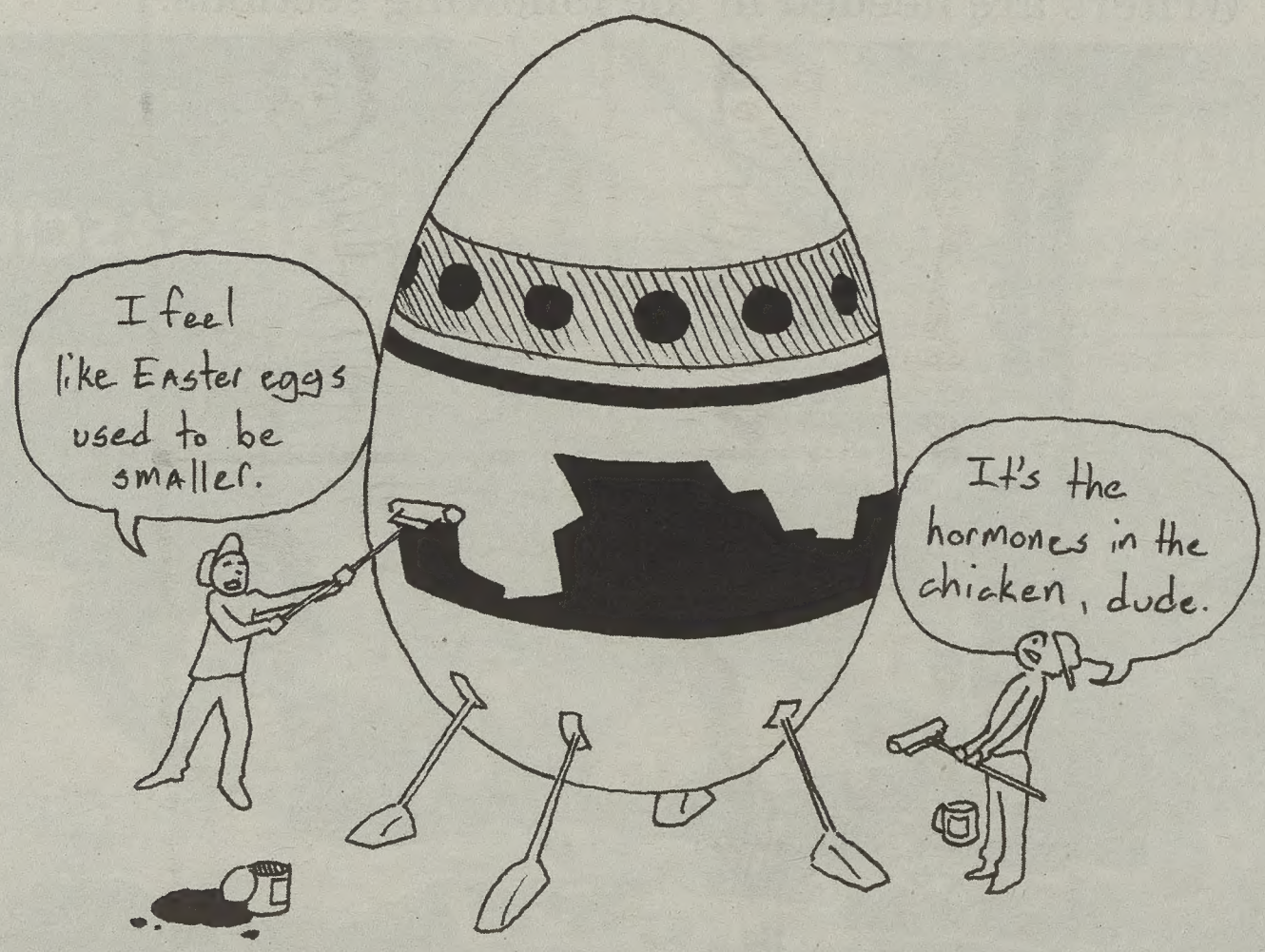


WIN HOMER

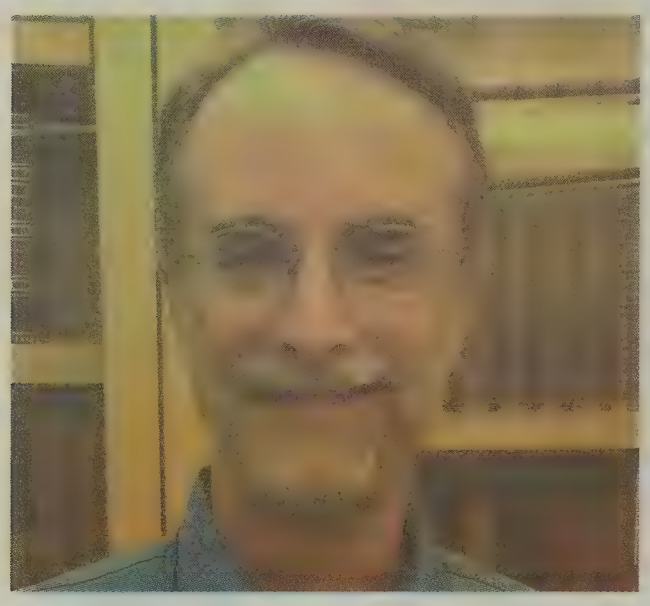
NOLAN ELLSWORTH

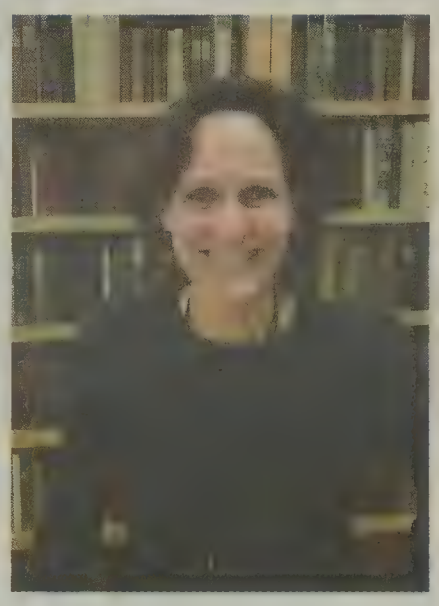
MILLIE VON PLATEN

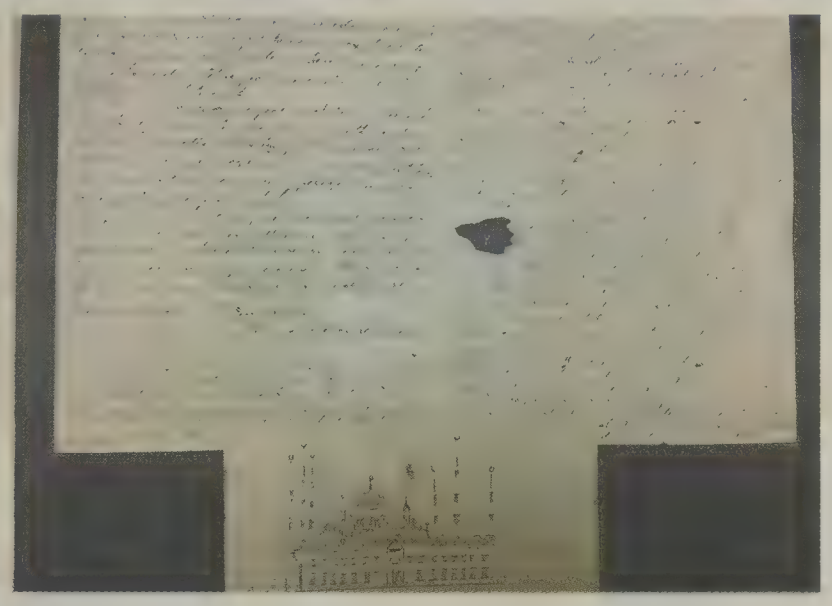
KAITLYND COLLINS

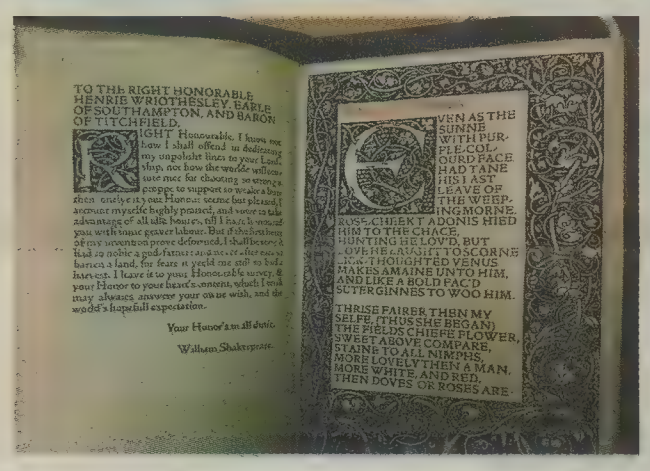
Archives & Spec

The College Archives and Special Collections houses documents, artifacts and books that paint a rich history of Middlebury. Students visit every week with their classes or to conduct research for projects. While many will have the opportunity to visit Special Collections once or twice during their time on campus, a dedicated staff works full time to organize and expand our college archives, and to pull material for researchers to enjoy. We wanted to provide a window into life in Special Collections by asking the staff to tell us about their jobs and their favorite artifacts. Some responses have been edited for length.








TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE
HENRIE WRIOTHESLEY, EARLE
OF SOUTHAMPTON, AND BARON
OF TITCHFIELD.
RIGHT Honourable, I know not
how I shall offend in dedicating
my unpolisht lines to your Lord-
ship, nor how the worlde will cen-
sure mee for choosing so strong a
prop to support so weake a burd-
then: onelye if your Honour seeme but pleased, I
account myselfe highly praised, and vow to take
advantage of all idle houres, till I have honored
you with some graver labour. But if the first heire
of my invention prove deformed, I shall be sorie it
had so noble a god-father: and never after ear-
beare a land, for feare it yeeld me still so barre
harvest. I leave it to your Honourable survey, &
your Honor to your hearts content, which I wish
may always answere your one wish, and the
world's hopefull expectation.
Your Honor's in all duetie.
William Shakespeare.
EVEN AS THE
SUNNE
WITH PUR-
PLE-COL-
OURED FACE
HAD TANE
HIS LAST
LEAVE OF
THE WEEP-
ING MORNE,
ROSE-CHEEKT ADONIS HIED
HIM TO THE CHACE.
HUNTING HE LOV'D, BUT
LOVE HE LAUGHT TO SCORNE
...HOW THOUGHT'ST VENUS
MAKES AMAINE UNTO HIM,
AND LIKE A BOLD FAC'D
SUTER GINNES TO WOO HIM.
THRISE FAIRER THEN MY
SELFE, (THUS SHE BEGAN)
THE FIELDS CHIEFE FLOWER,
SWEET ABOVE COMPARE,
STAINE TO ALL NIMPHS,
MORE LOVELY THEN A MAN,
MORE WHITE, AND RED,
THEN DOVES OR ROSES ARE:

Joseph Watson

Preservation Manager, Special Collections Associate, Library Facilities Coordinator

What does your job entail?
I oversee the preservation of the materials in all of the libraries, with a focus on Special Collections. That involves climate control, conservation treatments, housing, the binding program, care and handling guidelines, security, etc. I also assist researchers and help with classes, as well as coordinating facilities requests for Davis Library.

What is the best/worst part of your job?
Being able to learn something new every day, both from the collections themselves, and from hearing professors teach classes./Having to disappoint a researcher when we don't have anything in our collections that will help them learn what they want to learn.

What's one goal you have for the archives in the future?
Make sure that all the magnetic media in the College Archives is migrated forward to the digital age.

What do you hope students/faculty get from visiting the archives?
I hope their teaching and learning is enhanced by exposure to the primary source materials and rare books and media that we share with them.

What is your favorite piece we have and why?
The 1893 Kelmscott Press edition of The Poems of William Shakespeare. It's a beautiful book, and I'm a big fan of the publisher, William Morris, who was also a designer, writer, artist, philosopher, and political activist. Although it was published in the Victorian era, it is printed on a hand press and bound in vellum like a medieval book. It's a true Arts and Crafts treasure.

Anything else I should know?
I'm very lucky to work closely with Ginny Faust, our Conservation and Binding Technician. She performs really high quality conservation treatments on our special materials.

Danielle Rougeau

Asst. Curator of Special Collections and College Archivist.

What does your job entail?
My job entails providing access to and helping researchers effectively use primary source materials, answering research questions, assisting with classes taught in Special Collections and designing exhibits.

What is the best/worst part of your job?
The best part of my job, the most creative part of my job, is providing primary resources that not only answer expected questions, but also reveal connections and possibilities that inspire new ones. The worst part is knowing there are more relevant resources I could provide – I just haven't found them yet.

What's one goal you have for the archives in the future?
That the Middlebury community understands that honoring Middlebury's history hinges on preserving its human component – with all its complexities, struggles and triumphs. The institutional line is only part of the story.

What do you hope students/faculty get from visiting the archives?
Answers aren't simple, and they vary.

What is your favorite piece we have and why?
An 1820 letter from Smyrna (known today as Izmir, Turkey) co-written by 1814 alumni Levi Parsons and Pliny Fisk, missionaries to the Holy Land for the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. Though the closest of friends, they reveal themselves as vastly different characters, and I particularly enjoy Fisk's pragmatic views of his mission and the culture in which he's struggling.

Anything else I should know?
Primary source materials are the bomb!

Rebekah Irwin

Curator and Director of Special Collections & Archives

What does your job entail?
I add things to the collection by way of donations, auctions and rare book dealers, mostly from North America and across Europe. I also teach and co-teach classes and workshops with faculty, lead tours, and basically help run the place along with my colleagues, interns, and student employees.

What is the best/worst part of your job?
I hate being out-bid at auctions and losing the chance to bring

What's one goal you have for the archives in the futur
To follow up our Bookmaking Winter Term Workshop with a f

What do you hope students/faculty get from visiting t
Most broadly, I hope students gain a deeper interest and unde
as powerful and ever-changing sociological, political, religious
messages a little differently.

What is your favorite piece we have and why?
This changes by the day. Since I'm responsible for new acquisi
comes along to supplant it. But there is a special place in my h
Printed with thermo-chromatic ink on heat-sensitive paper, it
second text, otherwise hidden. In other words, the book only r
physical contact with texts in this age of digital reading.

ecial Collections

Kaitlin Buerge

Special Collections and Archives Intern

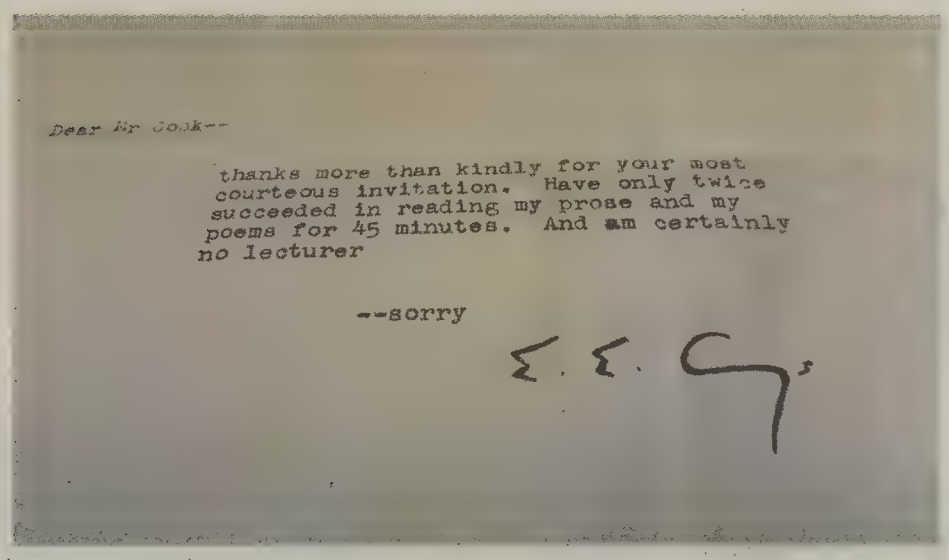
What does your job entail?
I am currently the and spend most of my time creating finding aids to provide access to our materials. I also get to touch the books.

What is the best/worst part of your job?
The best part of my job is the people I work with. The second best part is that it is like being on a treasure hunt every day. The worst part is printing labels, hands down.

What's one goal you have for the archives in the future?
I would be personally thrilled to finish the finding aid project I am working on. More finding aids online means more people using our collections!

What do you hope students/faculty get from visiting the archives?
I hope that everyone who visits the archives leaves with a general sense of awe. I hope that students, in particular, feel that they are contributing members of a community with a rich history.

What is your favorite piece we have and why?
My favorites are rarely flashy or obviously important, and are often letters with strange postscripts. My favorite thing (today) is a letter written by the poet, e e cummings, to Reginald L. Cook (Middlebury professor and head of the English department), declining his invitation to speak at Bread Loaf. Cummings' letter reads more than a bit like his poetry, and I couldn't help but laugh at his brief response (for context, the invitation to speak was an entire page).



Dear Mr Cook--

thanks more than kindly for your most courteous invitation. Have only twice succeeded in reading my prose and my poems for 45 minutes. And am certainly no lecturer

--sorry

e. e. cummings

Mikaela Taylor '15

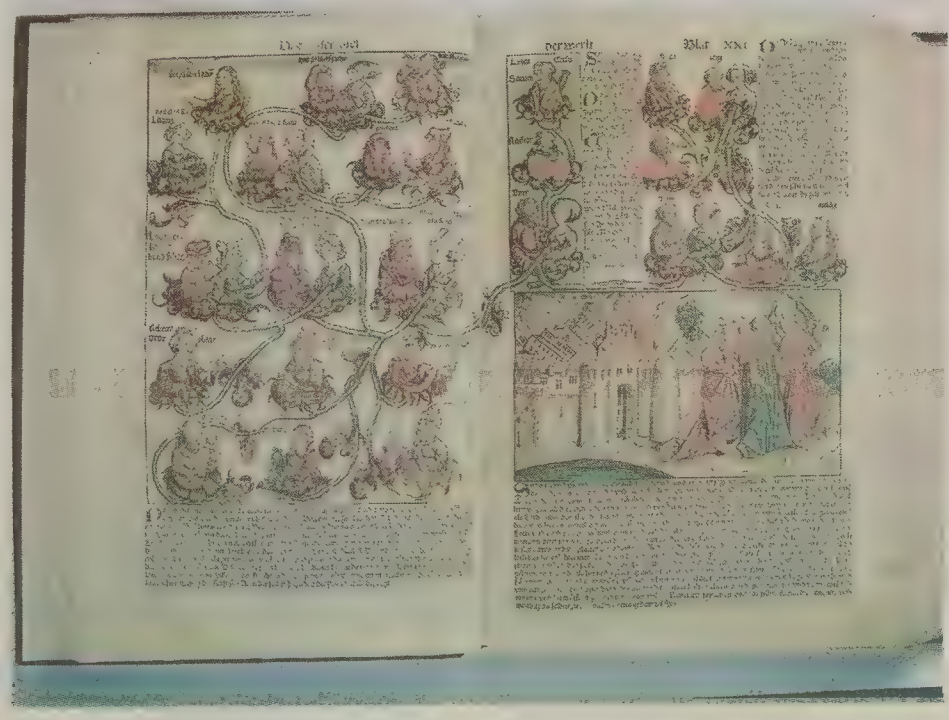
Postgraduate Fellow for Special Collections & Archives

What does your job entail?
My job was initiated in 2015 to help promote our resources on campus through social media, by organizing events, by reaching out to students and student orgs to actively collect current materials for the archives, and curating exhibits in the library.

What is the best/worst part of your job?
There are so many wonderful aspects of this job. At the top of the list are my fantastic colleagues: the Special Collections team, our student workers, and really all the library staff are phenomenal people, and it's an honor to work with them. The worst part of the job is when I can't find something or don't know how to answer a researcher's question. Luckily, that brings me back to the best part of the job – there's always someone who knows the answer!

What do you hope students/faculty get from visiting the archives?
I think it's so important for students to understand primary sources and book history. The tactile nature of engaging with our materials differs from the type of studying and learning most students are accustomed to. You can't skim a manuscript letter or a really old book like you can a journal article or ebook. Our materials inspire a slower, more active experience that gives students a sense of where information comes from and (hopefully) encourages them to think critically in new ways.

What is your favorite piece we have and why?
My favorite object in our collection is our German copy of the Nuremberg Chronicle by Hartmann Schedel from 1493 because 1. It represents the shift in printing technology that revolutionized the preservation and dissemination of knowledge 2. It's visually interesting and historically meaningful 3. It was donated by a Midd alumna, Ruth Hesselgrave, class of 1918, and 4. We get to share it with many of our visitors.



Written by Sarah Asch
Designed by Cordelia Prouvost

MiddSafe Launches Online Advocacy Program

By Dan Espinoza
Contributing Writer

This April, MiddSafe will be offering online confidential support through a new website, the MiddSafe Online Advocate. The launch coincides with April being Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Stated on their blog, the MiddSafe Confidential Advocates are a group of students "committed to providing a safe and confidential resource for our peers in need of support and information around sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, domestic violence and other personal violations." Predicated on being "non-judgemental" and "compassionate," MiddSafe strives to connect peers with "medical, legal and emotional resources" at "local, state and national levels." MiddSafe advocates have received training in handling emergency and nonemergency situations, obtain confidential status under Vermont State law and are available through a 24/7 hotline service when classes are in session.

Prior to launching the Online Advocate, the hotline service was MiddSafe's primary means of connecting callers to resources and information following an act of sexual assault or violence. The Online Advocate serves the same fundamental purpose as the hotline, according to student advocate Ariana Mills '17.5.

"The MiddSafe Online Advocate offers the same resources and information that student advocates would provide in person or through our hotline. The tool conveniently displays a description of the resource, relevant contact information and confidential/non-confidential status," Mills said.

"The Online Advocate also provides information for peers of students impacted by sexual violence. This population is a significant portion of the students that reach out to MiddSafe Advocates. The Online Advocate differs most significantly from a confidential hotline because it does not require users to speak with an advocate over the phone or in person. We want to respect that some peers might not feel comfortable or be able to speak with an advocate over the phone or in person, and so the tool can offer support to peers during any stage of the healing journey," Mills said.

The website's main feature consists of a series of questions which a user can choose to engage. Some questions include, "Do you feel safe right now?" or "Are you interested in resources for yourself or someone else?" The user will ultimately receive a list of resources based on their answers to the prompts. Peers of students impacted by sexual violence can learn about when and how to seek help for their friend, understand what their friend might be experiencing and strategies for taking care of themselves.

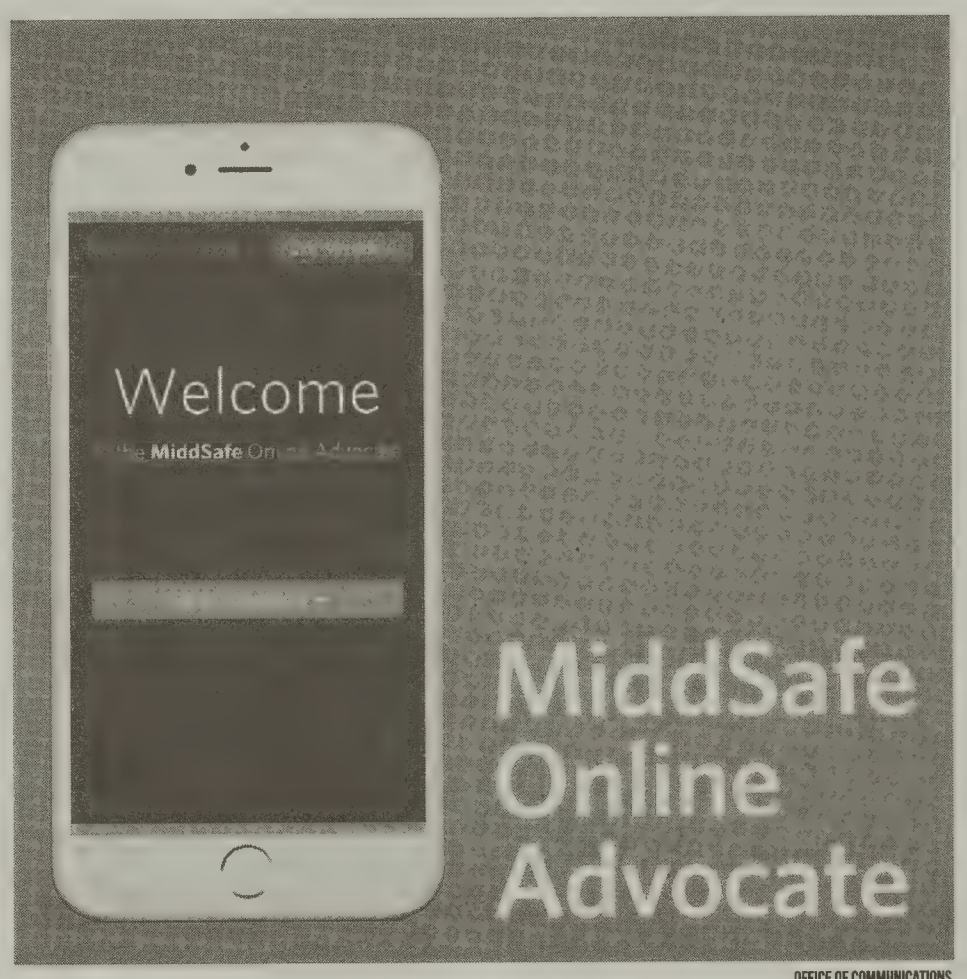
Also available on the website is an entire list of resources for those who do not want to engage in the series of questions. The "About" page contains information about the purpose of the Online Advocate as well as contact information and answers to frequently asked questions.

The Online Advocate will bridge the gap between the bathroom resource posters and talking to an advocate.

"We are hoping to improve confidential advocacy within our community by offering this accessible, online resource that removes possible barriers students might face in reaching out to advocates for information over the hotline or in person," Mills said.

"We made user privacy a priority in developing this tool. The Online Advocate does not allow for any data input, and so it does not collect identifying information from users," she said.

Mills' idea for developing the MiddSafe Online Advocate started on a drive back to Middlebury after Feburary break in 2016. She recalls, "During that drive, I thought about how the MiddSafe hotline, like other hotlines around the country, receives missed calls. I imagined that some callers might face barriers to reaching out; they might change their mind, not be in a safe place to stay on the line or even lose cell phone service. I wondered how we could still ensure that everyone in our community had access to necessary information and resources even if they were unable or did not feel ready to connect with an advocate over the phone or in person."



OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS
MiddSafe launches its online advocacy program allowing for more confidentiality.

Mills wanted to create an online experience that would provide the same information that an advocate would provide over the hotline or in person. The online tool contains many of the questions an advocate might ask, as well as provides the same information and resources to a victim or survivor.

Barbara McCall, who is the director of Health and Wellness Education and supervisor of the MiddSafe program, provided guidance to Mills and supported her idea. The two pitched the idea to the Marketing and Communications Office, who, in turn, helped design the site.

An official launch for the MiddSafe Online Advocate took place on April 11, at the Crossroads Cafe in the McCullough Student Center. Student advocates shared information about the new tool and offered opportunities to try the new website. The website was projected on a larger screen.

The launch, as well as the promotional materials, were funded by a grant received from the Department of Justice in 2016 to combat and respond to sexual violence.

Market Mu$ings: What Goes Up Must Come Down

By Jackson Adams
Columnist

Alike the curving of a frown,
The markets, they go up then down.
And too, resembling smiles, they
Drop down then go up, up, away.

On Mar. 21, the day of the largest stock market drop this year, Kai Ryssdal (host of Marketplace on NPR) tweeted an oft-repeated but little-heeded bit of financial wisdom: "Markets. They go down, too."

Yes, perhaps this is an obvious statement for some readers, but it is worth noting that since the financial crisis was sorted out and things started to rise again in early '09, the markets have been very kind. All markets, not just equity markets, can provoke profound hindsight bias, and if we do not stop and take stock every once in a while (pun very much intended), it is easy to let good market conditions convince us that we are genius investors when in fact we simply haven't recently been tested with a harsher environment.

Before going any further let's look at why the market reacted the way it did on March 21st. Losing roughly 1.5 percent was a big deal, but only in the context of the momentum that came out of the "Trump Bump" that we discussed in the first article of the semester. Historically speaking, that sort of volatility is not uncommon in the slightest. It is only recently, in the years since the financial crisis of '07 to '08, that we have become accustomed to ever-decreasing market volatility.

Taking a look at the inset chart, we see a clear downward trend in the number of trading days when the S&P 500 price return is -1 percent or worse. In other words, while during 2008 in the midst of the crisis 30 percent of trading days saw the market close more than one percent lower than the previous day, in 2013 that only occurred seven percent of the time, and so far this year it has happened only once (or roughly 1.9 percent of trading days).

This could be due to a variety of factors. Steady growth of U.S. businesses tends to increase investor confidence along with improving outlooks internationally decreasing the perceived risk of a global slowdown. There is also something to be said for cautious Federal Reserve policy mixed with optimistic rhetoric, as well as increasingly complex hedging strategies that theoretically dampen long term investment volatility. But make no mistake, even if overall volatility is lower, it does not mean that the waters will be calm forever.

The point I wish to make is not that low volatility will surely give way to catastrophic meltdown. Just that low volatility will not go on indefinitely. Optimism breeds optimism and low volatility breeds low volatility, but this cycle can be snapped by geopolitical events, business failures or even a sneezing trader bashing the sell button. We should not be paralyzed with fear that things may reverse course, nor gleefully assume they won't. It's a matter of understanding that we humans are dreadful at remembering past failures in times of excess and past successes in times of decline.

The path of the stock market is littered with victims of hindsight bias. Bruno Biais and Martin Weber, of the University of Toulouse and University of Manheim respectively, published a study on hindsight bias in professional bankers in both London and Frankfurt in 2007. They found "strong evidence" of hindsight bias, and noted that failure to learn from changing volatility led to suboptimal decision making.

Note: All data from Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis; 2017 only includes trading days through 3/21.

JACKSON ADAMS

I was having a conversation at the lunch table this week when someone asked, "Why don't people just sell stocks when they're up and buy them when they're low?" In response, I obnoxiously quoted Hamlet: "Ay, there's the rub."

The actual response is, psychologically it's hard to be perfectly rational. We humans tend to sell falling stocks too quickly and avoid markets that have been going down. And we pour into rising markets and hold on to stocks that are way up. Somewhere in our brains we tell ourselves a falling stock will plummet forever and a rising stock will never stop. But because of this, we lose out. We lose money when we hold onto high-flying shares that reverse course and tumbling shares that suddenly rebound. It's only human.

Yes, market volatility has trended downwards. The markets have been relatively kind. But this does not constitute a new world order, only a period in an endless market history being written every day. If only we could get it into our thick human skulls that all things come and go. To combat this, this week I'm going to go try music therapy. Ok Go's "This Too Shall Pass" on loop seems a plausible antidote.

Disclosure: I am not an expert. This article does not constitute any sort of financial or investment advice and should not be construed as such.

Jon Meacham to Give Commencement Address

By Charmaine Lam
Features Editor

Last week, Middlebury Newsroom announced that Jon Meacham will deliver the 2017 Middlebury College commencement address on Sunday, May 28.

Meacham is a "Pulitzer Prize-winning author, political commentator and former editor-in-chief of Newsweek," according to the College Newsroom. Both a journalist and a historian, Meacham has crafted a path that allows him to pursue two passions.

> ***"I was lucky to have professors who took great paints to help me see that literature mattered, not just to the life of the mind but to the life of the country."***
>
> JON MEACHAM
> WRITER AND HISTORIAN

"I grew up on Missionary Ridge, a Civil War battlefield, and always loved history and books," Meacham said. "So combining those two passions was ideal."

Meacham is a member of the University of the South in Sewanee's class of 1991, a liberal arts college where he grew his passion for writing and reporting.

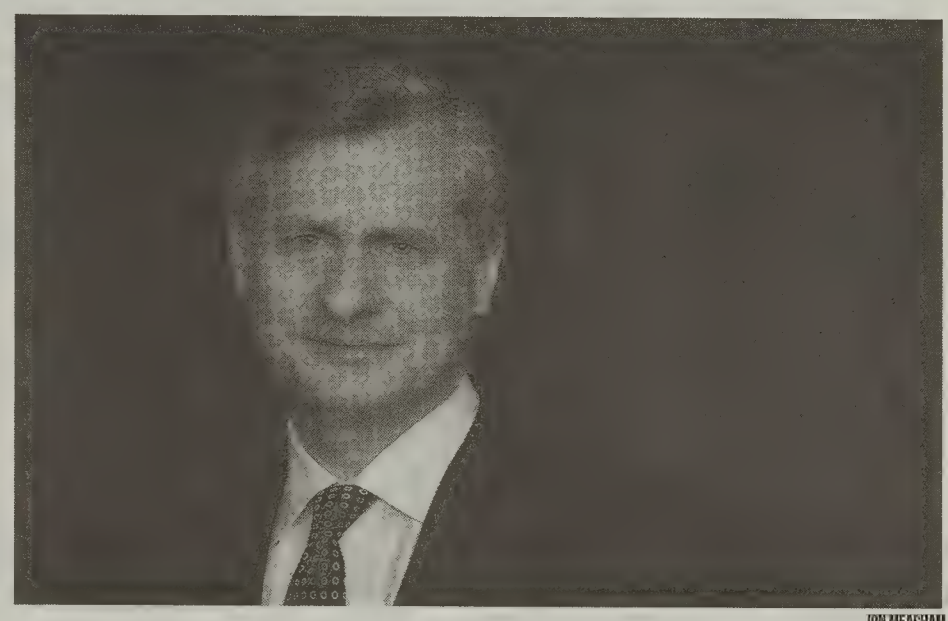
"At Sewanee, I was lucky to have professors who took great pains to help me see that literature mattered, not just to the life of the mind but to the life of the country," Meacham said.

This pursuit has stayed with Meacham throughout his career, whose most memorable works have given him the chance to spend time with people who made their own contributions to history.

"I've just been wonderfully fortunate to be able to be part of great journalistic enterprises and to write books that have included my spending time with people like President Bush the Elder, who made so much history," Meacham said.

He looks forward to speaking at commencement.

"I'm honored to be asked to come to Middlebury," Meacham said. "It's a fabled place devoted to the kind of education that made a difference in my life."



JON MEACHAM

Jon Meacham will deliver the Commencement address and receive an honorary degree from Middlebury College at the 2017 College Commencement on May 28, 2017.

MAlt Leadership Experience Enriches Students

By David Gossens
Contributing Writer

One of the best ways to get away from Campus during February Break is to participate in one of Middlebury's yearly MAlt trips. Entirely student-led and organized, MAlt trips provide a deeply immersive experience engaging with a chosen social issue over one week. Twelve students — without any staff or faculty – head out into the world.

"What I always tell people is that MAlt isn't just that week that they're gone. It's almost a full year experience," said Ashley Laux, MAlt advisor at the Center for Community Engagement (CCE).

> ***"MAlt isn't just that week that they're gone. It's almost a full year experience."***
>
> ASHLEY LAUX
> MALT ADVISOR

Leaders are selected in the spring, and begin planning over the summer. During the fall semester and J-term, leaders work diligently on their trips. Even the spring after they return, there are reorientation dinners for all trip participants.

A pair of trip leader applicants choose an issue they are passionate about and then try to identify a non-profit organization that engages with it.

The CCE can help with finding the non-profit, but it is only there to advise — it is the students that reach out to the non-profit organizations to ask if they will host them for the trip.

The leaders then figure out trip logistical planning, such as flight reservations, rental cars (and accompanying drivers), food, allergies and a myriad of other details that the leaders are fully responsible for while the trip is under way.

The leaders will also figure out what they and the participants need to learn in order to be effective supporters of their non-profit. These can be hard or soft skills; it could be the basics of a foreign language; it could be carpentry. On top of all this, the leaders must select their participants.

Group dynamics are key, and once the participants are selected the leaders need to have them break the ice and settle into a cohesive, friendly group. These people will eat, sleep and live in close quarters throughout the trip so it is important that they become comfortable around each other.

One interesting aspect of participant selection is that trip leaders are not shown the names of applicants until just before they select them — this way leaders don't just choose their friends. This also allows for one of MAlt's great benefits; you can make friends with people you never would have interacted with on Campus.

Disasters can happen on trips; but leaders are trained to deal with them. They spend a day with an organization called Breakaway that trains alternative trip leaders across the United States, and they have regular meetings with Ashley Laux to talk about problems like what to do if a participant is hurt, there's bad weather, or someone forgets a passport.

Trip leaders might even have disagreements with the non-profit while being hosted. MAlt is not just about doing direct service with the non-profit — it is also about thinking critically over the role of volunteer service, international development or going into a different community to do service.

MAlt does cost money, but the MAlt Executive Board prides itself on making sure it is affordable to any student who wishes to go. The real cost for the trip, on average, per student, is $1,200. However, thanks to a budget from the Finance Committee, donors and student-run fundraising, the upfront fee for students is $350 for international trips and $250 for domestic trips. If a student is facing financial hardship, the CCE can give even more financial aid – some students don't pay anything.

Ariana Hernandez '19 co-led a trip last February break to St. Louis Missouri. The trip focused on education and poverty in the area. The group worked with the non-profit Kingdom House, which provides financial counseling and education. The non-profit provides day-care and afterschool programs as well.

> ***"It helps us understand, as Middlebury College students, how we can help our own community here on campus."***
>
> ARIANA HERNANDEZ '19
> FORMER MALT TRIP LEADER

Hernandez decided to go not just because she thought it would be a fun experience. Rather, "it helps us understand, as Middlebury College students, how we can help our own community here on campus," she said. "I wanted to do it to help the community partner we were going to work with, but also for us to understand the issues regarding poverty and education here in Addison County."

When reflecting on what she thought her participants enjoyed the most was on the first day of the trip, when they went on a tour of the neighborhood. They had learned about the issues that it faced prior to the trip, racially and socioeconomically, but then they were actually able to see it while walking around the community.

One side of the street, there were the projects, with incomes of $7,000-12,000 per year, and across the street were houses making $50,000-60,000 a year.

Hernandez was able to see her participants learn about the issues and get excited and motivated to help. While MAlt trips have their limitations, the trip was rewarding.

"If not in St. Louis," Hernandez said, "then here. Try to go to the Charter, try to provide meals for the people who suffer from poverty. Being able to do a little bit to engage with the community, and let them know that even though we are in this little Middlebury bubble we can still try to do something for them."

Kyler Blodgett '17 led a trip to Cazuela, in the Dominican Republic. The trip focused on Housing Access, working with the organization ADESJO. The group worked on a housing rehabilitation site, helping to rebuild run-down homes.

Participants lived in a school building 20 minutes away from ADESJO's main site, forcing them to interact more with the community itself.

There was a basketball court where they would play with the local kids and talk about what they were doing there. After dinner every night there was reflection, and then there would be a bonfire with music and dancing.

While it was nice to engage with the community, Blodgett acknowledged that his group did not bring many skills to help improve it.

This, however, doesn't make him question the purpose of MAlt trips – one of the things MAlt does really well is gets students to create trips that highlight the systems that perpetuate social issues.

Blodgett's trip was not just about six days of building — it was about something larger.

"The way you realize that these things you talk about in a classroom, about different political power imbalances or economic slumps," Blodgett said. "Those have real impacts on people's lives — it's so important to learn that, and MAlt trips are one way to do that."

The program needs new trip leaders each year, and the deadline for leader applications is April 19. Each trip needs a pair of Midd students as organizers, and the only requirement is to be on campus during fall semester and J-term.

CENTER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

MAlt San Francisco explores rural farming practices in the urban environment. The group worked with urban gardens throughout the week to explore the issue.

How Do You Talk About Sex?

By Emma Patch
Contributing Writer

From April 8-9, teacher and public speaker Sarah Byrden brought her "Body of Sex" project to Middlebury to discuss body-based sexual education through a series of lectures and workshops centered around pleasure, anatomy, community, desire and relationships. This marked Byrden's third visit to campus.

More than 75 students gathered in the Mitchell Green room on Saturday afternoon. Emma Hampsten '18.5, an organizer of the event, made opening remarks by introducing Byrden to the crowd as a MogaDao Sacred Daoist Sexuality teacher.

Byrden began by explaining how her project started and the role that Middlebury has played in its development. Dismayed by the imbalanced discussion surrounding sex on campuses, particularly the emphasis on consent and defining consent versus what actually happens after this point, Byrden decided to pursue this project. According to Byrden,, Middlebury has had an openness that has allowed this work to evolve immensely.

She asked students to take a moment to reflect on why they were there, emphasizing that whatever emotion one may have been feeling, or whatever experience one may have been reflecting on, was welcome in that room. This was the attitude that defined the remainder of the lecture.

"We have seriously been left without mentorship and education around this subject in a really big way," she said in reference to the lack of knowledge about sex that she has been witness to.

"The reality is there is nothing you are supposed to know," she said, encouraging students not to worry whether there is something they should know beyond what they have been told or learned through experience.

"Pornography is showing us a complete theatrical expression of sex and sexuality which has nothing to do with the real experience." Byrden lamented the way that we are often caught between the "pumped-up" narrative provided by the media and the pornography industry and a tremendous amount of silence, shame and oppression. This, she argues, leads to a very confused conversation around sex.

> ***"Sexuality and sexual energy is the creation story of human life."***
>
> SARAH BYRDEN
> SEXUALITY TEACHER

"Sexuality and sexual energy is the creation story of human life," Byrden said.

Under this philosophy, sex is assumed to be related to every aspect of life. Byrden claims that we should trust our bodies, because it is our bodies' sensitivities that guide us. She juxtaposed this claim with our tendency to question what is wrong with us, based on what we hear and think is supposed to happen or how we're supposed to feel, with the fact that our bodies are trustworthy.

She stated that we all belong in the same room together, no matter our orientation, history, or experiences. "We are having the same conversation," she said. The goal of this conversation, she explained, was to offer an experience more than to provide information.

She hoped to help students think about their own sense of sexuality in a different way. At the same time, she did not wholly condemn the silence around sex. "There is a difference between the silence of shame and the silence of respecting sex as a precious and personal thing," she said.

When asked how asexuality fit into this philosophy, Byrden connected asexuality to the practices of Chinese monks who are celibate, but engage with their sexual energy in a non-erotic way. She argues that if someone is identifying as asexual, the way that that experience emerges is also informed by our sexual creation.

Byrden then went on to discuss the role of pleasure in this discussion. She claimed that sex is not about mechanics, but that sexuality is based on sensuality, meaning our ability to live inside of our senses. "Sex is 10 percent mechanics and 90 percent everything else. Everything else is your eye contact, it is your voice, and your communication, it is your emotional sphere, it is the honesty of your emotions, and your ability to feel in the body," she said.

She then claimed that our entire body is a sexual organ. "Your elbow, your stomach, your face, neck... that is your sexual landscape." She described how feeling the wind blow across your face, or the sunlight hit your skin on a chilly day, is comparable to the sensual experience of sex.

At the end of the lecture, and after making demonstrations revealing the erogenous zones of sexual organs with the aid of silicon models, she provided handouts of both male and female anatomy as well as how to enjoy and redirect sex towards this sensual experience.

Library Display Encourages Conversation

By Courtenay Roche
Contributing Writer

The Davis Family Library, in conjunction with the Scott Center for Spiritual and Religious life, recently unveiled a new book display titled "Conflict, Conversation and Resolution" in response to the Charles Murray event and protests that occurred on March 2.

The display, designed to foster important yet difficult conversations on campus, includes books such as Crucial Conversations: "Tools for Talking When Stakes are High" by Kerry Patterson, "How to Disagree Without Being Disagreeable by Suzette Haden Elgin," and "The Little Book of Conflict Resolution" by John Paul Lederach. The books on display are all available to be checked out in the library, or viewed for free online.

The books were originally part of a message sent out by the Scott Center shortly following the Charles Murray event and protests. The message included numerous other resources for healing and reflection, including guided meditation, facilitated discussions and "Satya," or truth, circles.

"We need places to reflect with clarity, both quietly and interpersonally, on our own experiences in the last week. We also need, among many other things which could be named, ways to be renewed and restored in our relationships with one another," the message says.

The library staff wanted to help advertise the resources put out by the Scott Center, so they turned the list of books into a display at the front of the library.

"I thought the library is a place for learning and growth, reflection and community," said Carrie MacFarlane, one of the librarians behind the display. "I thought that was one way the library could help contribute to all of those efforts."

The library puts out new displays every few weeks to highlight parts of their collections they think will be of interest to the campus.

"The displays have all kinds of themes, sometimes based on what's going on around campus, sometimes what's going on in the world or sometimes if there's something in our collection that we want people to be aware of," said MacFarlane.

One of MacFarlane's favorite past displays was following the Clifford Symposium in October. The theme of the symposium was mindfulness, so the library highlighted books in their collection about meditation and reflection.

Displays can be more than just literature-based — the mindfulness display included DVDs, a meditation station and a newly opened "unplug and recharge room" on the third floor of the library. There's currently a second display in the library right now celebrating "Gaypril," a month-long LGBTQ+ pride celebration.

Laurie Jordan, chaplain of the College, was the original curator of the list of books on display. Meeting with the rest of the staff at the Scott Center, she came up with the idea to add to their message a list of books from her shelf about having difficult conversations.

"We've all been in those kinds of situations where something is near and dear to someone's heart, and someone starts arguing. There were a lot of other ideas floating around ... and we were trying to figure out where we would go with it," Jordan said. "I thought, let's all pool our knowledge, and I ended up putting up this list of books. It's a bit eccentric, and it just has to do with books I'm interested in."

> ***"No one person has the whole truth... the truth is out there, and you have to be in search for it."***
>
> LAURIE JORDAN
> CHAPLAIN OF THE COLLEGE

Jordan didn't expect the library to reach out to her and add the books to their collection to display for students, but she's glad they did. Jordan sees books in particular as an important part of the reconciliation process.

"My favorite thing to do is to have someone come in to talk to me and I'll pull out a book from my bookshelf and say 'okay, you need this'," she said. "For most of my life, I've had questions that I wasn't able to answer; where I didn't have another expert readily available. And that's when you learn from books."

The theme of the books, conversation, Jordan believes is an important method for the Middlebury College community to reconcile the events that happened and the conflicting viewpoints on campus.

"Reconciliation is a pretty safe way to find out how other people think," said Jordan. "As for these books, they're more of a how-to guide for how to have conversations about any kind of controversial topic, and really putting yourself into someone else's shoes to understand them."

Jordan has spent much of her life studying theology, and this has taught her the value of reconciliation.

"No one person has the whole truth ... the truth is out there, and you have to be in search of it. You have to be humble about what it is you know," she said. "The more people you add to your search, the more likely it is you'll figure something out by listening to even the smaller, quieter voices. The one voice that's saying something different might have it totally right."

The Davis Library and the Scott Center for Spiritual and Religious Life are hoping to use the books in this display to continue fostering these important conversations on campus, whether on the topic of the currently still-brewing controversy or completely new and different ones.

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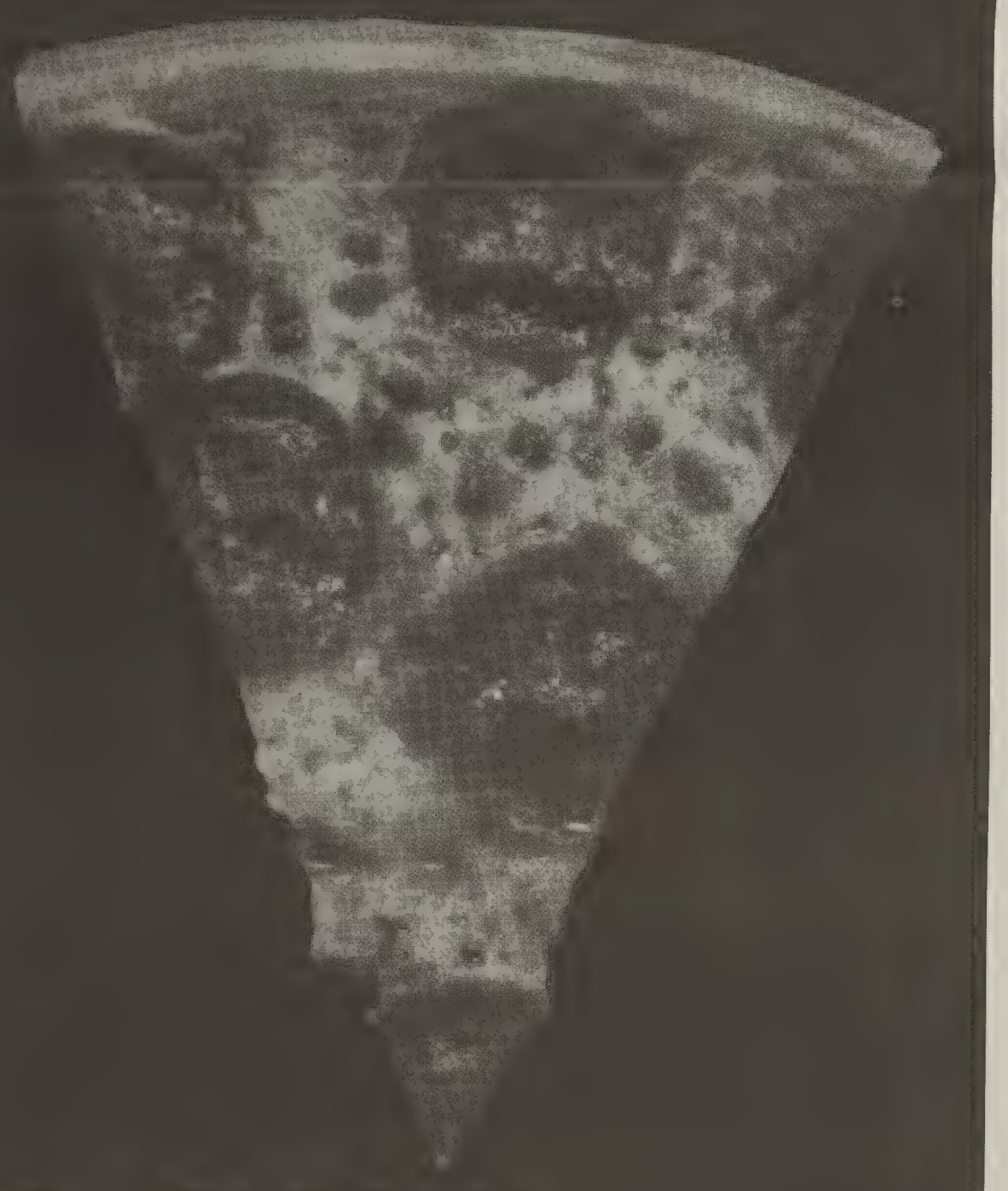

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ARTS & SCIENCES

The Middlebury Campus

MCAB Brings Lil Uzi Vert to Middlebury

By Bilal Khan
Staff Writer

He is young, flashy and already making waves in the hip hop world. He wears black leather pants ripped at the knees, a gold nose ring, high top basketball sneakers and a dazzling assortment of diamond chains and bracelets. And he is ready for the show.

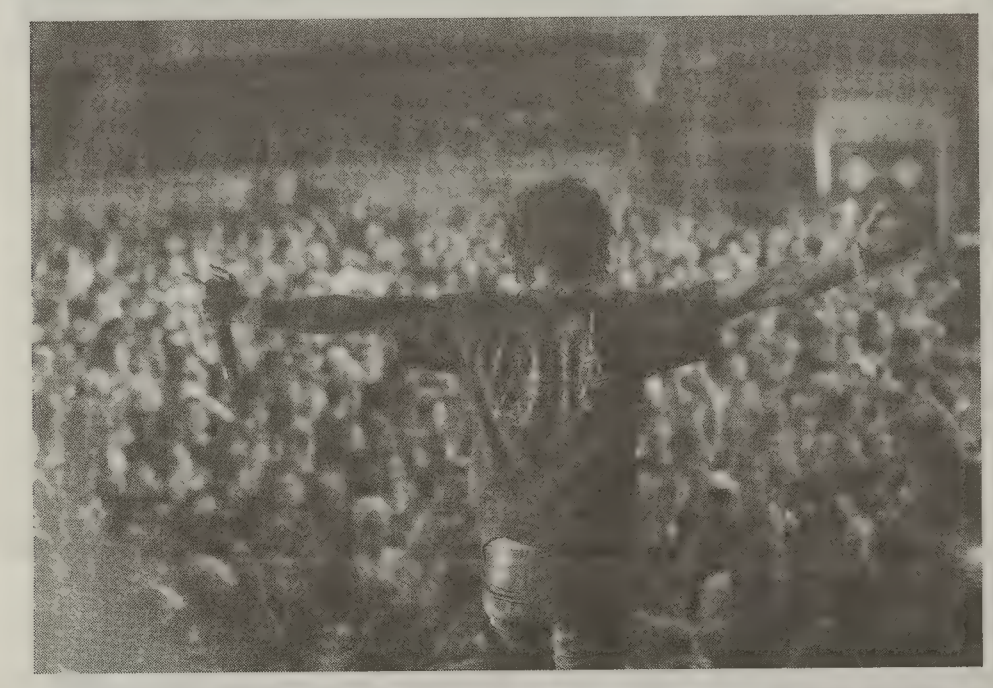
On Saturday, April 8, Lil Uzi Vert performed in the Kenyon Arena in front of what seemed like the entire student body of the College. The set was short and pretty standard and he played most of his hits, including – of course – "XO Tour Llif3," which has already claimed a solid spot in the Billboard Hot 100. Uzi began his performance center-stage, but soon abandoned the spot for the hockey stands flanking the stage. This brought him closer to his raving audiences.

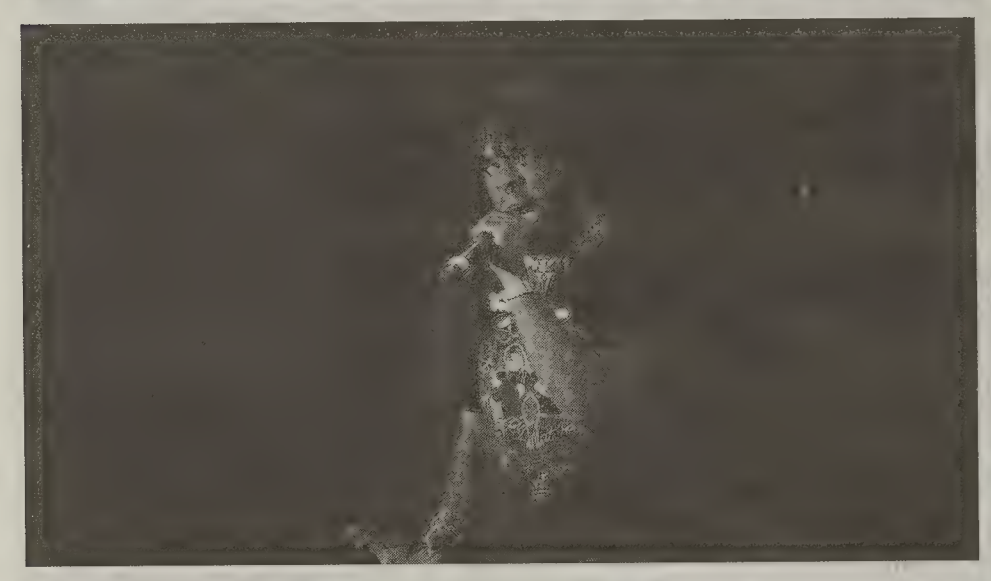
Uzi knew what his crowd wanted, and he was eager to give it to them. He gladly took snapchats for anybody willing to get their iPhone within a foot of him (millennial alert!), and he made sure the pictures showed the crowd and his face in the same shot. While most phones were returned to their owners safe and sound, some were inevitably tossed in the air and may or may not have survived in one piece. Also, iPhones were not the only item flying around Saturday night: Uzi apparently threw around dollar bills, and eye witnesses report seeing many people return to their dorms $20 to $30 richer.

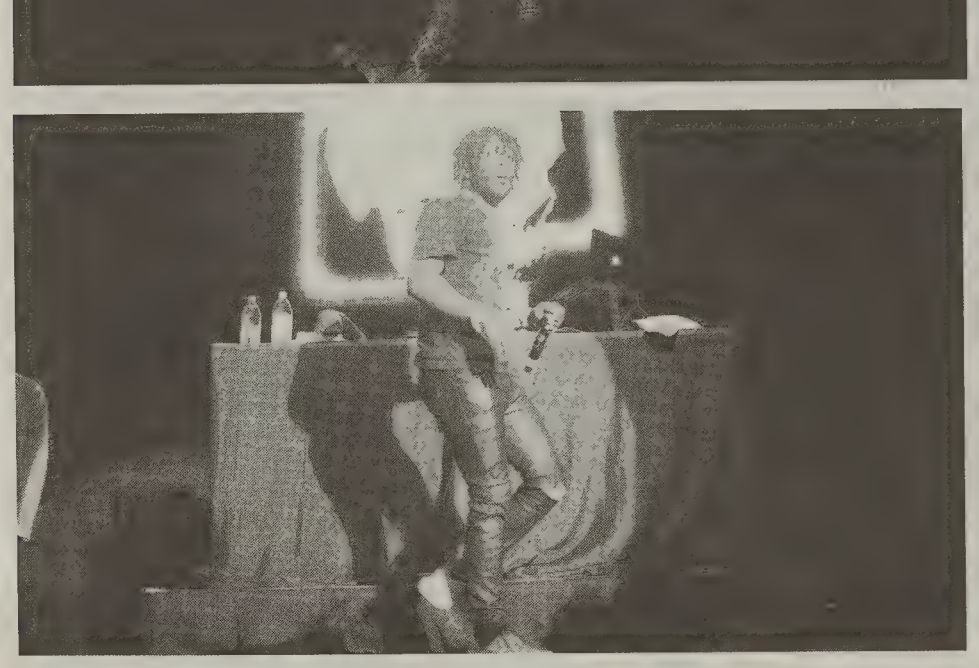
Uzi's post-trap beats are hazy and and his rap often "mumble rap", but his music is generating noise, and who knows: after Desiigner and Lil Yatchy, he might just become the face of this music revolution. Uzi, born Symere Woods, grew up playing video games in the Francisville neighborhood of North Philly, and started rapping his senior year of high school. He found mainstream success with his fourth mixtape, "Lil Uzi Vert Vs. The World," released in April of last year, and since then there has been no looking back for the intensely hardworking artist. He is not arrogant or careless, and even though he just spent $100,000 on a diamond chain, he is arguably less spendthrift than many of his contemporaries in the southern rap game. I think he will go far, and I am glad we got to see him on his way there.

Concerning the tradition of the annual spring concert, I have only two things to say: first, people get excited when you have a true entertainer on the stage, and after the underwhelming performance of Felly last year, it was truly a relief to see someone who could work the crowd so well.

We should also probably find a better location than Kenyon to hold the concert. It is a massive space and we are not a big school. Even if every student in the school shows up, the arena is less than half filled up. And that makes the whole experience feel a whole lot less exciting. Concerts, especially those of EDM or hip hop artists, are built around creating an atmosphere full of energy and passion, and that is just hard to achieve when the venue is unable to accommodate or attract more than 1500 people in a full-sized hockey arena.







MICHAEL O'HARA

Lil Uzi Vert performed to a very enthusiastic audience in Kenyon Arena.

DON'T MISS THIS

This is A Portrait If I Say So

Anne Goodyear will discuss how portraiture evolved largely as a genre based on mimesis to one stressing conceptual and symbolic associations between artist and subject. Artists considered range from Georgia O'Keeffe and Marcel Duchamp to Jasper Johns and Yoko Ono.

4/13, THURSDAY, 4:30 P.M., MCA 125

Middlebury College Orchestra Spring Concert

The Middlebury College Orchestra, directed by Andrew Massey, performs a brand new composition by senior, Samuel Kudman. Svala's Saga was inspired by the work of Kirsten Hoving, Charles A. Dana professor of History of Art & Architecture whose photographs will be on display at the performance.

4/15, SATURDAY, 8 P.M., ROBISON CONCERT HALL

NER Vermont Reading Series

New England Review's Vermont Reading Series is pleased to present fiction writers Glen Pourciau and Genevieve Plunkett, poet Bianca Stone and Middlebury senior Hannah Nash, representing the student-run Frame magazine. They will all read from their recent work. Books, cocktails and other beverages will be available for purchase.

4/17, MONDAY, 7 P.M., 51 MAIN

'Arcadia' Connects Past and Present

By Sarah Boyle
Staff Writer

Last week, Thursday through Saturday, the Middlebury Department of Theatre and Dance held performances of "Arcadia," a play by Tom Stoppard directed by Cheryl Faraone. The piece ponders the theme of the continuity of life, taking place in two different centuries without ever changing set.

"Arcadia" portrays the lives of two different generations in the same home. In the 1800s, the play follows the young Thomasina and her tutor Septimus as she tries to understand the complexities of mathematics, philosophy and her fellow humans. In the present day, scholars and researchers live in her former home and try to unravel the mysteries of her time period.

According to Jessie Kuzmicki '19, who played Thomasina, throughout the play, the characters discover that "the world has an imminent ending" but that "we can't let that notion of mortality stop us from living the life we have now."

Additionally, even though Thomasina's brilliant mathematical work went unfinished due to her untimely death, Kuzmicki thinks that the fact that her ideas are validated in the 20th century hints at the idea that "things, and maybe even people, can and will come back to us." She believes that Stoppard "encourages us to see the positivity and joy of a life full of knowledge and love."

John Bertolini, Ellis professor of English and the Liberal Arts also builds on this idea that lost time is not debilitating. He believes that "['Arcadia'] takes the long view of life, recognizing the sadness in full, the pain of loss and death's annihilating power, but at the same time it also recompenses and restores us with ... the knowledge that the next generation will replace us, so that we are not completely defeated by our mortality."

The play emphasizes this idea that the past and the future are connected through the continuity of the set. The entire play takes place in the same room with the same furniture. If a character from the 1800s took a bite out of an apple, in the next scene in the present day, that apple with the bite mark would still be there. One of the most powerful moments of the play is when characters from both time periods are present in the same room, oblivious of one another and living their lives.

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE

Lana Meyer '17 (left) and Jackson Prince '17 (right) portray Hannah and Valentine.

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE

Alex Draper (left), associate professor of theater, portrayed Bernard Nightingale alongside Eliza Renner '18.

Associate Professor of Theatre Alex Draper '88, who plays the 20th century scholar Bernard, affirms that the play's ability to "careen back and forth between passion and reason" is what makes it so special. He hopes that the audiences were able to "sense the level of talent (both on stage and back stage) of the students we have here that allows us to present something this ambitious."

He related that a hard aspect of this piece is its intellectual complexity and how a cast must be able to grapple with that and still be able to convey "the heart pumping life" throughout the work.

The cast all worked together to project the complex ideas and emotions that this work evokes. The passionate and curious relationship between Thomasina and Septimus, played by Jabari Matthew '17, is central to the heart and breadth of the play. The inquisitive and pragmatic portrayal of Hannah, a 20th century scholar portrayed by Lana Meyer '17, highlights the play's theme of the importance of the desire and struggle to obtain knowledge.

The performances of "Arcadia" were rich with dimension and intimacy. The actors demonstrated the full scale of a work that is challenging and intricate, while still making it accessible to audiences.

THE REEL CRITIC

HIDDEN FIGURES

By Will DiGravio
News Editor

"Hidden Figures" takes place in 1961, in the midst of the Space Race and at the outset of the Kennedy Administration's plan to land a man on the moon by the end of the decade.

Directed by Theodore Melfi (who wrote the script with Allison Schroeder), the film tells the true story of three black women who work as mathematicians or "computers" at NASA, where they are outsourced to various departments to check the calculations of the agency's male engineers. While the women are brilliant and well-educated, Jim Crow laws and the bigotry of their colleagues serve as barriers to their advancement and acceptance at the agency.

Mary Jackson (Janelle Monáe) is assigned to work alongside Karl Zielinski (Olek Krupa), a lead engineer who sees Mary's potential and encourages her to apply to NASA's engineer training program. Mary, however, is unable to apply after she discovers a new rule requiring her to take extra courses at an all-white high school, even though she has a B.S. in mathematics like most engineers.

Dorothy Vaughan (Octavia Spencer), faces similar discrimination. After the boss of the so called "colored computers" gets fired, Dorothy steps in and assumes the responsibilities of a supervisor. When she approaches her boss (Kirsten Dunst) and asks to be officially promoted and compensated for her work, she is refused.

Were it not for the prejudices of their superiors, Mary could be NASA's first black, female engineer, and Dorothy could be the agency's first black, female supervisor. As Mary puts it, "Every time we get a chance to get ahead they move the finish line."

The main character is Katherine Goble Johnson (Taraji Henson), a mathematical genius who is assigned to the Space Task Group, a group of engineers led by Al Harrison (Kevin Costner) and charged with sending the Mercury Seven astronauts — John Glenn, Alan Shepard, et al — into space. Katherine is responsible for checking the work of Paul Stafford (Jim Parsons), the group's chief engineer who treats her poorly and classifies his calculations to make her job impossible.

The racism portrayed in the film is not violent. NASA employees do not use slurs, assault black employees or exhibit any major hostility. Instead, the racism is habitual. It comes through in their facial expressions, instincts and inability to recognize that their black colleagues have something to contribute and may know more than they do. The film explores institutional racism and how easily it is perpetuated and normalized.

In the building where Katherine works, there is no bathroom for black women, thus forcing her to walk a half mile to the nearest restroom. One rainy day, it takes Katherine forty minutes to relieve herself. When she returns, Al — unaware that there is no bathroom for her to use in the building — angrily questions Katherine in front of her coworkers. Exhausted and frustrated, Katherine alerts him to the problem and demands to know why her coworkers refuse to treat her like a human being. After this exchange, Al desegregates the bathrooms, begins to treat Katherine better, and reminds everyone, "Here at NASA, we all pee the same color."

"Hidden Figures" captures the tension and frustration of the Space Race and in particular, the frustration of the black women whose skill and help are routinely rejected. By exploring the struggle for civil rights through the lens of one of the nation's most prestigious government agencies, the film showcases not only the immorality of segregation, but the stupidity and loss of not putting brilliant minds to work.

After several frustrating months, Katherine realizes that the current crop of mathematicians and engineers aren't up to the task, and, after finding a way to see Stafford's classified data, develops a formula to help send Alan Shepard into space. This causes Al to realize that Katherine is the mathematician he has been looking for, the one who looks, as he says, "beyond the numbers."

Mary, after winning a lawsuit against the state of Virginia, takes courses at the all-white high school and becomes NASA's first black, female engineer. And after NASA buys their first IBM computer, Dorothy, realizing that it is the technology of the future, learns Fortran and teaches her team how to use this new technology. She ends up becoming NASA's first black, female supervisor, and a computer pioneer.

Al begins to give Katherine more responsibilities, eventually enlisting her help to calculate the coordinates that will guide John Glenn (Glen Powell) home after he orbits Earth. While he certainly helps Katherine, Al is not a white savior. She, and the other women in the film, earn and push for every opportunity they are given. They take chances and, in the end, are heroes.

"Hidden Figures" is an uplifting, empowering film about black women who refuse to be passive or to let anyone else determine their destinies.

The stories of Mary, Dorothy and Katherine blend the fight for equality with the fight for space, illustrating that social progress and scientific discovery are one in the same. Though "Hidden Figures" takes place in the past, it is very much a story about how to fight for, find a place in, and never lose sight of the future.

PERFORMING ARTS SPOTLIGHT: MOVEMENT MATTERS

By Audrey (Qian) Li
Contributing Columnist

What matters to you? Social Life? Higher GPA? More sleep? To Andrew W. Mellon Interdisciplinary Choreographer Maree ReMalia, movement is what matters.

On Thursday, April 20, ReMalia will bring her two-year project Movement Matters to a culmination, in a performance presentation at 6 p.m. in the Mahaney Center for the Arts's Dance Theatre. The event is free, and all are invited to join ReMalia and her collaborators to enjoy an informal sharing through text, movement, archival media and more, followed by a celebratory reception.

The presentation will feature students whose majors span from dance to environmental studies, film and history; faculty, staff and members in arts administration, biology, writing, global health and more. Including selected live performance works from ReMalia's two-year residency, this event will share reflections, findings, archival footage of course collaborations, creative projects and workshops.

ReMalia first learned about the Movement Matters in the fall of 2014. She was strongly interested in the opportunity and was later selected as one of three finalists to come to Middlebury College and develop a one-month research model.

"In my teaching and dance-making, I work with people from a range of identities, abilities and disciplines as a way of making space for the type of inclusion and dynamic expressivity I want to experience in the world," ReMalia said.

With her ability to integrate various perspectives into her research, collaborate with a plethora of disciplines and engage bodies of all backgrounds into her movement practice, ReMalia was invited to return to the College as the Mellon Interdisciplinary Choreographer.

"I use movement as a platform to celebrate who we are and the range of expressions that emerge because of our distinct identities, and to consider ourselves in relation to the world in which we live," ReMalia said. "Moving together is a way for us to research dwelling in possibility, building meaningful relationships and advocating for communal experiences."

Through Movement Matters, ReMalia and her team are celebrating and offering glimpses into what has been meaningful for them over the last two years, sharing some of the discoveries they have made and the following questions that have emerged.

How can examinations of movement across disciplines offer insights into the ways we are connected personally, socially, politically and environmentally in our global circumstance? How might movement help us cultivate awareness, remain present, practice empathy, engage in compassionate confrontation and source tools for well-being?

"Body and movement are as valuable as our intellect and academic pursuits that they are connected and can inform each other and offer tools for enriching our daily lives," ReMalia said.

Reaching across disciplines and inviting participation from individuals, ReMalia and her team hope to build a platform for people from a broad range of backgrounds and perspectives to share resources and embodied experiences.

"I hope what comes through our sharing is that the definition of movement and dance is quite broad. It does not always have to happen in a dance studio or on a stage," ReMalia said. "The people who participate can also be quite broad. These spaces do not always have prerequisites and the range of expressions that show up in these spaces can be reflective of the people who are present."

ALAN KIMARA DIXON

"Movement Matters: Two Years in Process" will be presented in Mahaney Center for the Arts on April 20.

The Game-Changing Power of Stem Cells

By Isaac Ducker
Staff Writer

On March 20, Dr. Douglas Melton, a member of the Harvard Stem Cell Institute, spoke to the College about the potential of stem cells in medicine and in everyday life. The talk addressed not only current research on stem cells and their historical context, but also – and more importantly – the possibility stem cells have to change what it means to be human in the next two decades.

Dr. Melton compared the discovery of stem cells to the discovery of transistors 50 years ago. Essentially, the eggs all humans arise from become bodies through the process of cell differentiation. A couple decades ago, scientists began to approach the question of whether all cells in a body retain all the information to create every single cell (though they only create certain cells), or whether certain cells in the body only contain the information to create cells of a certain type.

Researchers found that the former is true, and more significantly, that this is due to the power of stem cells.

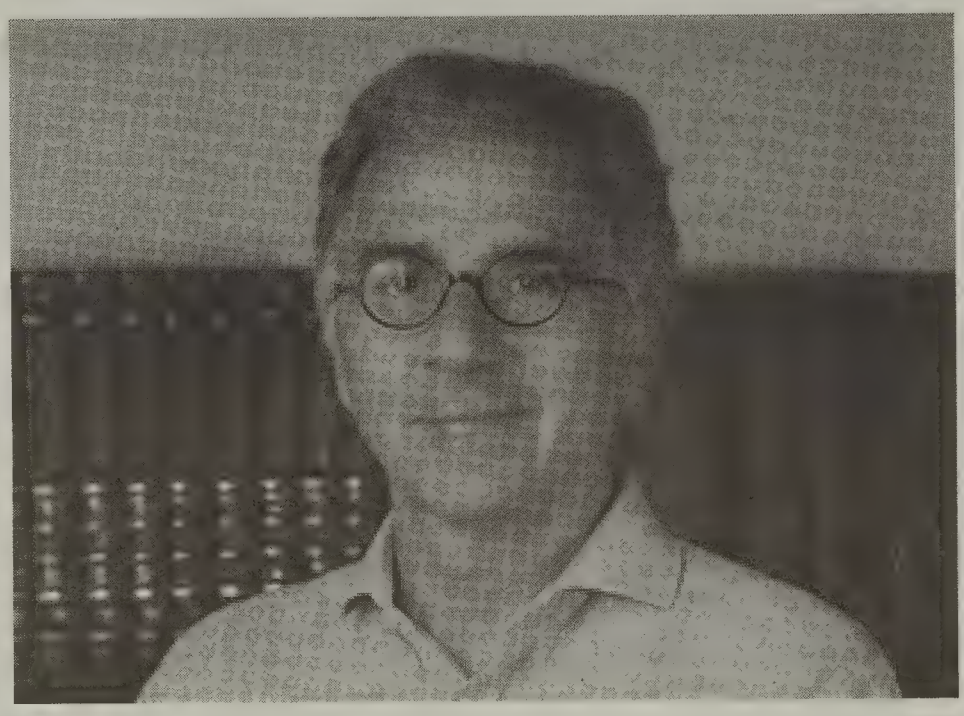
"Cells are continuously being renewed," Melton said. "The cells on your face are probably only three months old."

Cells that have already differentiated divide into two of the same differentiated cells. Stem cells, on the other hand, divide into one stem cell and a differentiated cell. They can self-renew almost indefinitely, and what is more, they are capable of creating any type of cell within the body.

"It's not an engineering problem at this point, it's an empirical study issue."

DR. DOUGLAS MELTON
PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR, MELTON LABORATORY AT HARVARD

Embryonic stem cells specifically can differentiate into cells from any part of the body. This has huge ramifications in the medical community. Stem cells could be used to replace tissues, slow the process of aging and stop degenerative diseases, which can have very high prevalence rates.



HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE

Dr. Douglas Melton spoke of the medical potential of stem cells.

WBUR

Melton's laboratory studies the differentiation of stem cells and their applications.

"It will be impossible for you or one of your family members not to have [Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, ALS, cardiovascular diseases or diabetes] if you live beyond 40 years," Melton said

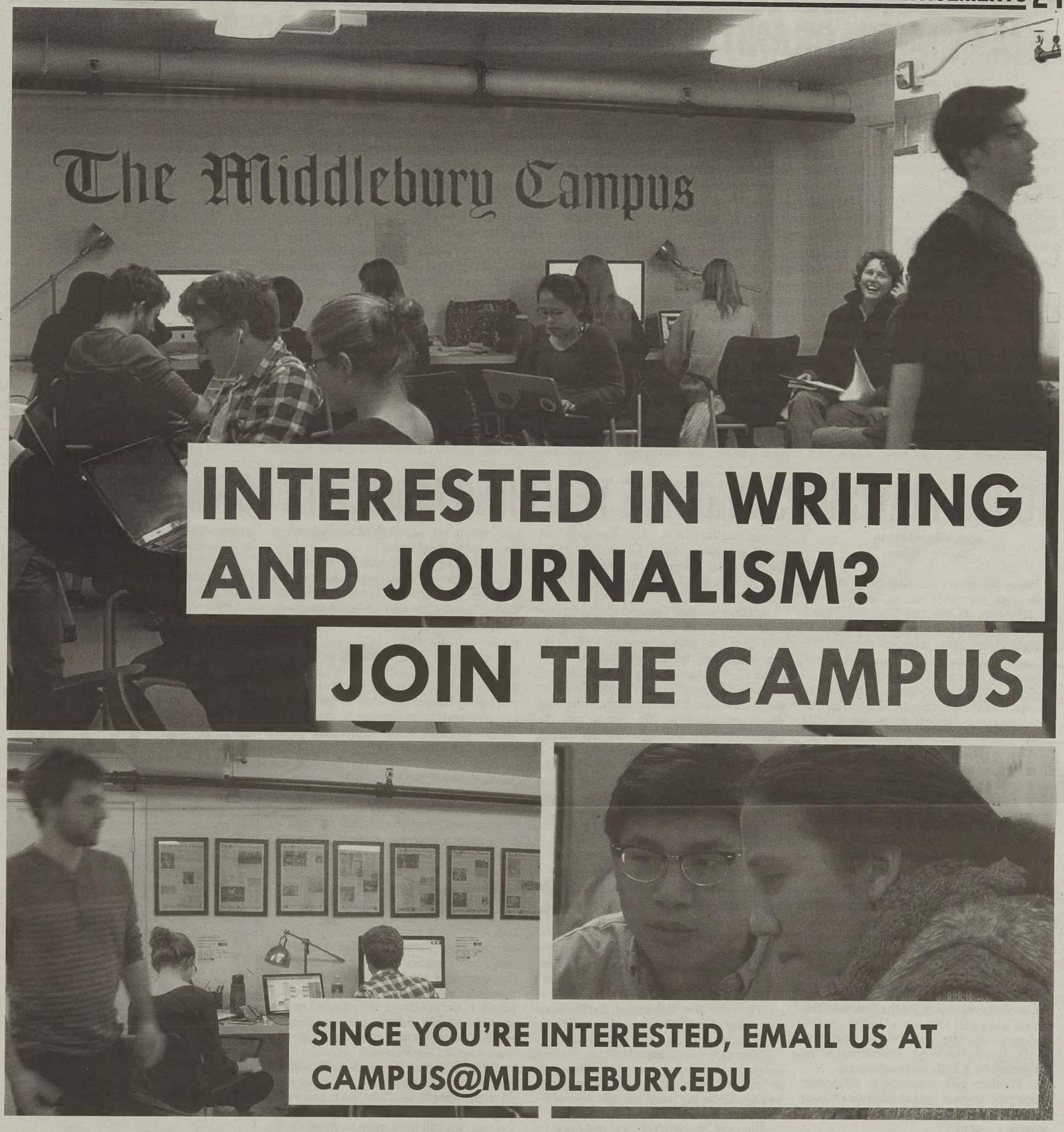
Stem cells offer a solution to these diseases in the form of drugs that decrease neural degeneration, drugs that form insulin producing beta cells and drugs that incite the creation of cells that create dopamine. These drugs are not something out of a science fiction novel; within five years there will be definitive clinical results from producing stem cells that are to become neural cells, that create dopamine.

Embryonic stem cells specifically can differentiate into cells from any part of the body. This has huge ramifications in the medical community. Stem cells could be used to replace tissues, slow the process of aging and stop degenerative diseases, which can have very high prevalence rates.

The different ways in which scientists mix and match chemical signals cause stem cells to differentiate into certain cells. Scientists like Dr. Melton are on the hunt for these cellular recipes.

"It's not an engineering problem at this point, it's an empirical study issue," Dr. Melton said.

In other words, it is not a matter of if; it is a matter of when.



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MAMMOTH GRAND SLAM PUSHES PANTHERS PAST AMHERST

By Jordan Howell
Senior Writer

After their spring break trip and most recent games, the baseball team sits at 6-10. They went 2-7 on the spring trip and split their most recent doubleheader last Sunday, April 9, against Curry.

While in Tucson, the Panthers went toe-to-toe with NESCAC West opponent Williams, who convincingly swept the Panthers over their three-game set. However, the final two games, a Saturday, April 1, doubleheader, were close matchups.

The Panthers jumped out on top of the Ephs in the first half of the Saturday doubleheader and took a 4-1 into the bottom of the fourth. However, the Ephs' bats came alive as they scored six runs on seven hits to go up 7-4. The Panthers eventually powered back to make the score close, but couldn't tie the game despite scoring two runs in the top of the seventh inning and a chance to score several more.

The third game of the Williams series, which went to the Ephs 10-9, was a back and forth affair. Heading into the ninth inning down 9-8, Justin Han '20 singled to right to bring Jason Locke '17 home. The Panthers left Han stranded and headed into the bottom of the ninth tied at 9 runs apiece. Williams would have the last laugh when they won on a rare walk-off fielder's choice ground ball.

After the spring break trip, the Panthers faced off against another division opponent, Amherst, for a three-game series. For the first time since 2012 the Panthers got the best of Amherst, taking two of three from the Mammoths.

"The best feeling when hitting a baseball is when you don't feel anything at all.

JUSTIN HAN '20

The most impressive game in the series was Middlebury's Friday afternoon, April 7, win. Heading into the top of the eighth trailing 4-3, Han came up to the plate with the bases loaded. He proceeded to hit a jaw-dropping bomb, his grand slam putting Middlebury up 7-4, a lead they would not relinquish. This blew the doors wide open and allowed Middlebury to command the rest of the game. Amherst did not score any runs in either the bottom of the eighth or bottom of the ninth.

After the game, Han reflected on the biggest hit of his brief Middlebury career.

"I was expecting a lot of fastballs because the bases were loaded and Amherst couldn't afford a walk," he said. "The best feeling when hitting a baseball is when you don't feel anything at all. I knew I hit the sweet spot and it was a great feeling rounding the bases to be greeted by my teammates at home plate."

The other two games of the series were played as a double header on Saturday, April 8. Middlebury lost the first game 3-1 and won the nightcap 6–2.

The double header versus Curry College was a fairly good outing by the team. In the first game, the Panthers won 2–0 thanks to a pair of Sam Graf '19 doubles. Graf's first-inning double to right field scored Brooks Carroll '20 and another Graf double to right in the sixth got first-year Gray Goolsby '20 across the plate. Middlebury's starter, Andrew Martinson '20, who got his first collegiate victory with his impressive start in which he allowed one hit without surrendering a run in five innings of work. This gave Martinson his first career win. That momentum did not carry over into the second game though, as the Panthers lost 6-5.

The night cap last Sunday was close throughout. The teams entered the top of the seventh 4-3 in Curry's favor. The Panthers were able to take a lead with a double by Palekar to center field. Both Han and John Tipps '19 were able to score to put Middlebury up 5-4. For the Panthers to win, they would need to play excellent defense in the bottom of the seventh. The bottom of the seventh sadly featured a bases loaded situation. There was soon a wild pitch which allowed two runs to be scored to give Curry the win.

Middlebury will next face off against Hamilton College, a division opponent, in a three-game series starting tomorrow, April 14, and lasts through Saturday, April 15.

TOUGH MATCHUPS PROVIDE TEACHING MOMENTS FOR MEN'S LAX

By Colby Morris
Senior Writer

When the men's Lacrosse team took on Bates (no. 1 in NESCAC, no. 4 in nation) in Lewiston, Maine last Saturday, April 8, they ultimately fell 15-12 to the Maine squad. Though the Panthers seemed like the underdog, they fought hard to improve on some of their recent performances.

The Panthers gave themselves themselves momentum heading into this close matchup against Bates by handily beating the Hamilton Continentals 20-7 last Tuesday, April 4. However, before the Continentals came to Vermont, Middlebury had a cold streak record of 0-3 against highly-ranked Bowdoin (no. 4 in NESCAC, no. 15 in nation), RIT (no. 5 in nation), and Amherst (no. 5 in NESCAC, no. 13 in nation).

Against Hamilton, A.J. Kucinski '20 scored five goals, Henry Riehl '18 had four assists, John Jackson '18 picked up 10 ground balls and Jackson won 25 out of 31 faceoffs.

Another notable event that game came when this year's main goalies, Captain Will Ernst '17 and newcomer Will Perry '20, made way for Chase Midgley '19 to make his first career start in the Panthers' most stacked position on the field. Midgley made the most of his opportunity, holding Hamilton scoreless for 27:52 of the 45-minute game and allowing just four of Hamilton's 12 shots to hit the net.

While the Panthers weren't able to make up quite enough ground against Bates last Saturday, they battled back from a 12-4 deficit to achieve a 15-12 final score. After finding themselves down 11-4 at halftime, Middlebury finished the game on an 8-3 run putting up a good fight against one of the country's best teams.

Danny Jacobs '20, who led the way in scoring with four goals, was helped out by Kucinski who had five assists on the day. Parker Lawlor '18 also added three goals, while Jackson and Kenan Yates '18 grabbed six ground balls each.

Meanwhile, Midgley tallied eight saves on 23 total shots in his first full game for the Panthers after playing all 60 minutes.

Despite having fallen off of the nation's top-20 since the beginning of the season, Middlebury now holds eighth place in the NESCAC standings.

While injuries to starting players Michael McCormick '19, Jack Gould '19 and Joey Zelkowitz '17 have hampered the Panthers down the homestretch of their season, they should look to build on the positives from last week in this week's games against Springfield on Wednesday and Trinity on Saturday.

"We are going to use our second half effort against Bates as momentum for the Springfield game," Chris Bradbury '19 said.

"We will come out with the energy we had that second half, and hopefully the results will be the same as it was during our third quarter run on Saturday."

Golf Weekend Roundup

By Will Case
Sports Editor

The Middlebury women's golf team teed off in competitive play for the first time this spring when they took a road trip downstate and across the lake last weekend, April 8-9, to take part in the Vassar Invitational at the Casperkill Golf Club in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. The Panthers only managed to finish fifth among the 12-team field at this year's Vassar Invite after finishing third in the same tournament a year ago.

The Panthers finished 38 strokes back of tournament-champion Williams' 621 on the weekend. The Ephs played well on Saturday, shooting a collective 321, but came out firing on all cylinders Sunday with an even 300. The Panthers also improved their day-over-day score, as they shaved nine strokes off of their Saturday score with a round of 325 on Sunday.

Chloe Levins '20 was the Panthers' low scorer. She finished 16th overall on the individual leader board and shaved two strokes off of her Saturday score with an 80 for Sunday's round, while the Panthers came in with a 659 (334-325).

When the dust had settled, Levins noted that many of the athletes were knocking the rust off after the cold New England winter.

"The first tournament back after a long winter is difficult for every competitive golfer," she said. "The relatively high scores from colleges across the board are indicative of the early-season jitters."

However, she didn't see any real cause for concern. "My game is in a good place for this early in the season. I played good golf that could have been great if a couple more putts had dropped. My driving and approach shots were particularly good this past weekend. I'm looking forward to improving my short game for the tournaments to come."

The foundational player for the Panthers for the last three years, Katharine Fortin '18, shot the low round of the weekend for the Panthers on Sunday as she carded a 78 to take nine strokes off of her Saturday score. First-year Blake Yanccino '20 finished with a two-day combined total that matched Fortin's, shooting a 165 to finish 19th on the individual board. Hope Matthews '20 adjusted quickly from the squash court to the golf course as she shot a two-day total of 167, turning in her low round, 82, on Saturday.

All in all, Levins felt comfortable with the team's results but certainly saw some room for improvement, too. "Our team is in a solid place," she said. "We were competitive after day one but still have more to show. It is a solid starting place that we are looking to improve upon throughout the spring season."

The Panthers will return to action again this weekend, April 14-15, when they head to the Jack Leaman Invitational at the Hickory Ridge Golf Club in Amherst, Mass.

The men's squad also returns to competitive play on the links this weekend, as they head to Irondequoit Country Club in Pittsford, NY, for the Fred Kravets Invitational.

Tennis Consistently Serves Up Victories

By Claire Messersmith
Staff Writer

The men's tennis team continues their ride on top, after most recently pulling out two NESCAC conference wins this past weekend, beating Williams and Tufts last weekend, April 8-9. The Panthers are now 13-1, suffering their lone loss over spring break.

Over their spring break trip, the team travelled to Austin, Texas and played Texas-Dallas, Southwestern (Tex.), Texas-Tyler, Gust. Adolphus, St. Edward's, Trinity, top-ranked Emory and Claremont-Mudd-Scripts.

Emory hadn't dropped a single match to a Division III opponent this season, yet the fourth-ranked Panthers knocked them off, 6-3, after notching five of six points during singles play, and two of three during doubles. The Panthers experienced their only loss of the season against Division II team St. Edwards on March 27, falling 6-3. The match was their second of the day, after beating no. 19 Gustavus Adolphus at the Austin Tennis Academy.

Most recently, last weekend the Panthers hosted Williams and Tufts, on Saturday April 8 and Sunday, April 9, respectively. The Panthers slid by Williams 5-4, dropping all three doubles matches. But, the Panthers came back, backed by incredibly strong singles play. Kyle Schlanger '18 gave the team the lead for good with a 6-2, 6-3 victory at no. 4.

On the women's side, the team travelled to California over their spring break trip, travelling to play Academy of Art, Azusa Pacific, Pomona-Pitzer, Claremont Mudd-Scripts, and Gust Adolphus. The team won two of five matches over the course of the Spring Break Trip, falling to Academy of Art 5-4, Azusa Pacific 5-4, and Claremont 8-1.

Entering their matches this past weekend with a record of 4-3, the team closed out a successful two days, in which it took down a pair of top-seven nationally ranked teams, Williams and Tufts. The women's team knocked off Williams 6-3 and blew out Tufts 9-0. The Panthers are now 4-0 at home, and 3-0 in the NESCAC.

The ninth-ranked hosts started things off against no. 7 Tufts by notching all three points during double play, including an 8-0 victory by the no. 3 tandem of Alexandra Fields '17 and Christina Puccinelli '19.

Both the men's and the women's teams open back up in Maine tomorrow and Saturday, April 14-15, to face Colby and Bowdoin.

THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT EIGHT

RANKING	TEAM	CASE'S COURT
1	**MEN'S TENNIS**	*Can't look much better than this team does right now.*
2	**WOMEN'S LACROSSE**	*They may have dropped two games, but if anything it's refocused them on their title*
3	**WOMEN'S TENNIS**	*The no. 9 Panthers looked strong last weekend against Williams and Tufts.*
4	**TRACK & FIELD**	*They carried the winter season momentum right into the spring season at the spring invite last weekend.*
5	**BASEBALL**	*Mammoth blast by Han... Mammoth...*
6	**MEN'S LAX**	*Got one of the tougher schedules in the country, but c'mon gents, let's get some dubs.*
7	**SOFTBALL**	*Amherst has a good team, so the Panthers shouldn't be discouraged about their postseason hopes.*
8	**CUBS RAISE A BANNER**	*Well, as of now (Tuesday) looks like the Bulls are going to draw the Cs in the first round. So next banner up ... Daaaa Bears.*

Track & Field Keep Running Over Competition

By Robert Erickson
Sports Editor

Competing at home for the first and only time this outdoor season, the Middlebury Track and Field team made the most of a sunny spring Sunday in Vermont with an excellent performance in the Panther Spring Invite on April 9. The women dominated the five-team field, finishing with 298 points (198 ahead of second-place Franklin Pierce); the men barely missed the top spot, totaling 216.66 points and falling just short of Franklin Pierce's 220.

All in all, the women won a staggering 13 events. In the sprint events, Elizabeth Walkes '20 crossed the line first in both the 100-meter (12.89) and 200-meter (26.91) dashes; Anna Willig '20 took home the gold in the 400-meter (59.42). The Panthers had no problem in the middle and long distance events, either. Lucy Lang '19 handled the field in the 800-meter race (59.42) and Sasha Whittle '17 won the 1,500-meter contest (4:38.55). Not wanting to miss out on the fun, Abigail Nadler '19 brought home the 5,000-meter title (17:48.13); Catie Skinner '17 completed the 3,000-meter steeplechase in 11:08.40, the fastest time ever recorded on the Dragone Track.

In addition to the lovely weather, Skinner remarked how beneficial it was to have the entire team on the same page from a training standpoint. "The transition from Indoor to Outdoor Track and Field is different for almost everyone," she said, "because some athletes specialize in events that are only held outdoors and other athletes end their indoor seasons at different times, meaning we all start training for the spring season at different times. Once we're all officially in the spring season (starting with San Diego), the team feels much more cohesive. We're competing as a unit and for the whole team's success, with the end goal being our best possible showing at NESCACs."

"This year's trip to San Diego was my favorite of my four years. This is the most I've seen the team mesh since I've been at Middlebury, and the division between event groups and ages feels smaller than it ever has."

CATIE SKINNER '17

In the relays, the quartet of Ellie Greenberg '20, Natalie Cheung '18, Maddie Pronovost '17 and Walkes won the 4x100-meter race; the 4x400 title was captured by Paige Fernandez '17, Willig, Basia Osborne '19 and Kate McCluskely '18. But the Panther women didn't stop there: off the track, Pronovost won the long jump with a leap of 17'5.25", Devon Player '18 recorded the longest javelin throw (132'10"), Kristin Kimble '19 placed first in the high jump (4'11.75"), and Kreager Taber '19 took the title in the pole vault with a jump of 10'6".

However, that's not to imply that the men didn't put together some impressive performances of their own. Jimmy Martinez '19 came away with wins in both the 200-meter (22.34) and 400-meter (48.59) dashes and Jonathan Perlman '19 crossed the line first in the 5,000-meter race (15:21.25).

In the 4x400 relay, the squad of Martinez, Joshua Howard '19, Arden Coleman '20 and James Mulliken '18 won the race in 3:29.01. Away from the track, John Natalone '19 and Nathaniel Albers '20 tied for first in the pole vault (13'11.25"), Alfred Hurley '19 won the javelin (167'10"), and Brenden Edwards '18 handled the field in the discus (135'1").

Skinner added afterward that the team's performance was all the more remarkable given the uncertain weather on Friday and Saturday. "I was so proud of everyone pushing through a hard two weeks of training and an unusual weekend schedule to perform as well as they could," she said. "It's honestly so hard to pick out any one athlete from the team that stands out; we compete in such different events and through such different difficulties. Although, for this weekend in particular, the jumpers and throwers deserve a shoutout for dealing with the uncertainty of whether they'd be competing inside or outside or even at all – most of the throwers even went to Amherst's meet on Saturday for more predictable conditions, and most of them competed both days."

The two weekends prior, the Panthers had meets on the front and back ends of their spring break trip to San Diego, Calif. On Saturday, March 25, Middlebury competed at the Point Loma Nazarene University Invitational, where the women finished second out of 10 teams and the men wound up fourth out of nine. The women's 4x100 relay team of Greenberg, Pronovost, Marisa Edmondson '20 and Walkes set a new school record of 49.10 seconds, good for a fifth-place finish. Event winners for the Panthers included Player in the javelin toss (137'2"), Martinez in the 400-meter dash (48.54), the men's 4x400 meter team of Alex Nichols '17, Martinez, Mulliken and Kevin Serrao '18 (3:17.07) and Natalone in the high jump (14'11").

The team's training during the week went as well as one could've hoped, according to Skinner. "This year's trip to San Diego was my favorite of my four years," she said; "this is the most I've seen the team mesh since I've been at Middlebury, and the division between event groups and ages feels smaller than it ever has. One of the highlights was our team banquet, where the seniors ask fun questions to fellow seniors and to all newcomers to the trip, including new coaches. The questions are an annual tradition, but this year showed us that our first years are comfortable on the team and perfectly willing to make fun of each other and the upperclassmen when given the chance; almost every question/answer had the whole room laughing. As well as being such a team-building trip, we get in some serious training and it's awesome to see everyone putting in as much effort as they can to achieve their best for the team."

The following weekend, the Panthers competed at the California Collegiate Invitational, hosted by UC San Diego and featuring teams from all three NCAA divisions. The Middlebury women finished fifth out of 16 teams while the men tied for sixth out of 17. Among those who landed individual spots on the podium were Nadler in the 5,000-meter race (17:57.24, second place), Player in the javelin toss (134'3", second place) Nathan Hill '20 in the 800-meter run (1:54.85, third place), and Natalone in the pole vault (15'1", third place). The women's 4x100 relay team of Edmondson, Cheung, Pronovost, and Walkes finished third with a time of 49.25.

Next weekend on Saturday, April 15, the Panthers will travel to Bowdoin College to face off against the Polar Bears and a number of other teams.

BY THE NUMB3RS

5 *Winning streak for men's tennis*

Elizabeth Walkes '20's winning 100m dash time at the Panther Spring Invite last weekend **12.89**

26.91 *Elizabeth Walkes '20's, wait... again!?!?... winning 200m dash time at the Panther Spring Invite last weekend*

Number of strikeouts for softball's Allison Quigley '18 in 12 innings over the last two games of the team's spring trip **13**

EDITORS' PICKS

WILL CASE (87-51, .630)

SEBASTIAN SANCHEZ (25-15, .625)

ROBERT ERICKSON (16-14, .533)

EMILY BUSTARD (97-98, .497)

Track and Field: Do both teams finish second or better at the Bowdoin meet this weekend?	**DAILY DOUBLE: Golf: Who will be the lowest scorer in both the men's and women's competitions this weekend?**	**Men's Tennis: Can they keep it going this Sunday when they take on fellow top-fiver and conference rival Bowdoin?**	**NBA Playoffs: Who wins game 1 this weekend when OKC takes on Houston?**
YES They look really strong right now. After a first place and second place finish last weekend, look for them to do it again this weekend.	PHIL MORIN '19, KATHARINE FORTIN'18 Morin beats out Buzby if the weather is under 50 degrees and Fortin is always a safe bet.	YES Bowdoin will be tough, but they're on a roll right now.	OKC Russ makes the series interesting as the Thunder steal the first game on the road.
YES They are rolling — they are rolling really, really well.	REID BUZBY '19, CHLOE LEVINS '20 Not really acquainted with the Golf team though...	NO Nothing against our men's team, but Bowdoin is on a 7 game win streak and playing at home.	OKC Another Triple-Double? With Russ anything is possible.
ABSOLUTELY Panthers have been looking strong the whole year and their times will only get better as they adjust to the outdoor season.	REID BUZBY '19, KATHARINE FORTIN '18 Am I playing it safe? Maybe.	YES The Panthers will win a close match. Going to be fun to see two of the hottest teams in the country go at it.	ROCKETS Westbrook is too busy chasing boards to be bothered to close out on three pointers, which is a bad approach against a team that shoots over 40 a game and owns the record for most threes made in a season.
YES How can I say no with both teams performing so well lately?	PHIL MORIN '19, KATHARINE FORTIN'18 Hopefully Will is right on this one.	NO What Sebastian said.	OKC Quite an analysis there, Rob. But since I'm picking OKC it has to be wrong.

TRACK & FIELD FLIES

Track & Field dominates Panthers' Spring Invite. Women's side takes first, men's side takes second. *See story on page 23.*

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

WOMEN'S LACROSSE POISED TO GET BACK ON TOP AGAINST CONFERENCE-LEADING BANTAMS

By Jake Turtel
Staff Writer

While most of the campus was venturing out of the snow and cold to do some much needed relaxing during spring break, the Middlebury women's lacrosse team was hard at work. The team fell from the top of the national rankings despite continued strong play as it experienced its first two defeats of the season, which included an 11-10 overtime loss on March 25 against conference-foe Bowdoin.

Even in losses, Jessie Yorke '17 believes that the team has continued to improve.

"Those challenging spring break games tested us in ways that made us a much better team," said Yorke.

With April coming, the Panthers have returned to their winning ways, defeating three NESCAC opponents.

On April 1, they thoroughly defeated the newly-named Mammoths of Amherst College 13-3. Although they were outshot by 22-20, Kate Furber '19 was fantastic in goal, saving 13 shots and picking up five ground balls. Emma McDonagh '19 scored four goals in the contest, while Elsa Hermanson '20 scored three of the last four goals to finish off Amherst.

Just three days later, on April 4, the Panthers travelled to Hamilton to take on the Continentals. The home team opened up the scoring on the first possession, but Henley Hall '19 scored two consecutive goals to put the Panthers on top. After Hamilton tied up the game shortly thereafter, the Panthers scored three straight goals at the efforts of Hall, Georgia Carroll '18 and Jenna McNicholas '19 and never looked back.

The Panthers and Continentals traded goals to start the second half until two-straight by the hosts made it a 9-7 game. The Panthers seized back momentum though when Hollis Perticone '18 (assisted by Carroll) and Carroll (assisted by Hall) notched goals for the Panthers. After Hamilton put a scare into the Panthers in the final quarter, Mary O'Connell '17 assisted Perticone to provide an insurance goal and all but ending the game. In an even affair, Middlebury came out on top with help from Hall's career-high four goals.

In a home game on April 8 against the Bates Bobcats, the match was never in doubt. When Carroll scored six minutes in the flood gates opened. The Panthers scored the game's first five goals; in addition to Carroll's score, Perticone, McDonagh and Delaina Smith '17 all got in on the action, with the streak ending on Carroll's second of the day. Bates scored three of the next four to bring the game within three, Smith netted her second with just 12 seconds left in the half.

The second period was more of the same. Sara DiCenso '19 and Bea Eppler '17 both got in on the scoring action, while multiple Panthers scored their second and third goals of the game. McDonagh scored the final two goals of the game just 23 seconds apart, sealing the victory to bring the Panthers' win streak to three games. Carroll had a great game, finishing with six points (four goals and two assists), and Kate Furber '19 picked up her seventh win of the season between the pipes, saving eight shots.

With only four games left in the regular season, Yorke continues to look forward.

"In the back of our minds we were also excited about potential post season games [against] those teams we went to overtime with," said Yorke. "We're a young team and that spring break trip gave us a ton of incredibly valuable game experience that will hopefully distinguish us as a great team, not just a good one."

Next up for the Panthers is an away match on Saturday, April 15, at Trinity.

SOFTBALL LOOKS AHEAD AFTER TOUGH AMHERST SERIES

By Sebastian Sanchez
Sports Editor

After finishing 6-4 in Clermont, FL the Middlebury Softball team prepared for a three-game NESCAC series against the newly coined Amherst Mammoths on Saturday, April 7, and Sunday, April 8 — it was a tough weekend.

On Saturday, the Mammoths put up 11 runs on 12 hits in five innings to take the first game of the series. The game remained deadlocked until the top of the third when Amherst offense awakened to score ten runs on eight hits. The Panthers managed to put up a run in the bottom of the fifth inning thanks to a walk by Hye-Jin Kim '17, a single down the line by Liza Tarr '19 that advanced Kim to second and another single by Kati Daczkowski '18 drove Kim home. The Mammoths, however, held on to the lead to win 11-1 heading into Sunday's doubleheader.

"After game one, we learned the Amherest was a very good hitting team," said Ali Della-Volpe '18. "We knew that we would have to come out more agreesive on offense and put the ball in play if we were going to win the next two games."

The Panthers looked for redemption on Sunday, but fell short as two errors in each game were paired with a quiet offense that could not generate any runs.

In game one, the Mammoths struck first again as they put up two runs in the third inning starting with a double, followed by a single and a sacrifice-fly to center field to plate the second run.

Middlebury was unable to generate any runs, as they only managed three hits to their opponents 13. The Panthers however, managed to prevent another "mercy-rule" situation — a testament to their constant defensive improvement — as they only allowed three runs.

Irene Margiotta '19 tossed a complete game, allowing three runs in seven innings with three strikeouts.

Game two of the twin bill was Middlebury's last chance to compete and they fell short once again as they only managed four hits. Amherst, on the other hand, for the third game in a row, managed more than 10 hits.

Allison Quigley '18 took the mound for the second time in the series, but she was unable to prevent the offensive onslaught that the Mammoths brought to the Softball Field. Amherst scored once in the second, twice in the third, once in the sixth and three times in the seventh innings without allowing a single run.

Middlebury, however, could simply not get their offense going. They finished the three game series with a combined 10 hits, while their opponent but up more than 30. Margiotta and Quigley both received losses, while the latter tallied two.

Captain Erin Giles '19, however, remained optimistic.

"Luckily, we have a week packed with games and we plan to use these games to prepare for our upcoming series against Hamilton. We can't focus on the negatives, but instead we will use it as a learning experience and come out even stronger."

The Panthers return to action on April 14 and 15 against the Hamilton Continentals.

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